

INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

HUMAN RIGHTS



Argentina's last dictator, former Gen. Reynaldo Benito Bignone, is escorted after reading his final statement before the verdict in his trial, along with five former generals and two others, who are accused of kidnappings and murders in one of the nation's largest torture centers, the Campo de Mayo military base, on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Read more on Page A8

SPORTS NEWS

OUT ON TOP



In this Nov. 15, 2009 file photo, Mexico's Lorena Ochoa chips the ball on the first green during the final round of the Lorena Ochoa Invitational LPGA golf tournament in Guadalajara, Mexico. Ochoa, the No. 1-ranked woman in world golf, announced her retirement from the game in a short statement on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Read more on Page A12



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Gates: Sensitive export list outdated, ineffective

ANNE FLAHERTY
PAULINE JELINEK

Associated Press Writers
WASHINGTON (AP) —

The U.S. government will update a Cold War-era rule book that decides which U.S. technologies and products may be sold abroad, revamping a system criticized as too strict and one that does not always keep sensitive technology out of unfriendly hands, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Tuesday.

The move was expected to open doors for U.S. businesses that want to sell their wares abroad but cannot, or do not bother, because U.S. regulations are so restrictive.

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Defense Secretary Robert Gates speaks before the Business Executives for National Security at the Reagan Building in Washington, Tuesday, April 20, 2010. Gates said the U.S. will soon begin updating its antiquated export-control system to better keep sensitive technology out of the hands of terrorists and other adversaries.

Associated Press

SEC chief pledges better oversight of banks

ALAN ZIBEL

AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission on Tuesday pledged better oversight of the nation's largest banks after criticism that the agency failed to spot accounting tricks at investment bank Lehman Brothers before it collapsed.

Chairman Mary Schapiro told a congressional panel that the agency has sent letters to 19 banks seeking information about whether they are using accounting tricks that a bankruptcy examiner said masked the bank's precarious financial condition. Lehman failed in September 2008 in the largest corporate bankruptcy in U.S. history.

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Securities and Exchange Commission Chair Mary Schapiro testifies before the House Financial Services Committee regarding financial reform on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Associated Press

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Defense Secretary Robert Gates speaks before the Business Executives for National Security at the Reagan Building in Washington, Tuesday, April 20, 2010. Gates said the U.S. will soon begin updating its antiquated export-control system to better keep sensitive technology out of the hands of terrorists and other adversaries.

Associated Press

GATES

Continued from Front Page

The plan probably will encounter resistance in Congress, where many lawmakers say they worry about proliferation. While some of the reforms can be done thru executive power, a complete overhaul of the system would require

legislation.

Gates said he wants Congress to pass a revamp bill by the end of the year because the existing bureaucracy has alienated U.S. allies and still failed to keep sophisticated technology away from adversaries.

The "famous maxim, 'He who defends everything, defends

nothing' certainly applies to export control," Gates said in a speech attended by defense contractors.

The proposal is focused on so-called dual-use technologies, items like computers and helicopter spare parts that are sold commercially for civilian purposes but also can be used by militant forces. Various federal agencies regulate these items and have competing oversight on whether they may be sold abroad.

The Obama administration's plan wants a single list and a single licensing agency to control the export system. The plan also would create a single enforcement agency. This final step in particular was expected to require legislation.

Gates said the single list and licensing agency would allow the government to concentrate on controlling the nation's "crown jewels." "Items that have no significant military impact or that use

widely available technology could be approved for export quickly," Gates said.

Lawmakers said Tuesday they were supportive of the concept, but some stopped short of endorsing the administration's plan. Reps. Ike Skelton, Democratic chairman of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, and Rep. Buck McKeon, the panel's top Republican, said they looked forward to convening hearings on the issue.

National security must remain "the paramount factor," McKeon said.

Rep. Howard Berman, another Democrat and the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Democratic Sen. Christopher Dodd, who heads the Senate Banking Committee, are said to be the plan's biggest advocates.

In a statement, Berman said Gates provided a "forceful rationale" for reform and that he would sponsor an

overhaul bill.

Gates says a major culprit in the current system is an overly broad definition of what should be controlled. When he was deputy director for intelligence at the CIA in 1982, Gates said the United States was tracking so many technologies that the number of items outstripped the government's ability to monitor them.

"We were wasting our time and resources tracking technologies you could buy at RadioShack," he said.

The system also is mired in bureaucracy and is spread around a number of federal agencies including the Defense, State and Commerce departments.

"In theory, this provides checks and balances," he said. "In reality, it creates confusion about who has jurisdiction, allowing for more mistakes and for exporters to shop around for the agency that will give them the best result." □



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Report links school lunches to national security threat

MARY CLARE JALONICK,
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Many American children are so overweight from being fed french fries, pizza and other unhealthy foods at school lunchrooms that they cannot handle the physical rigors of being in the military, a group of retired U.S. officers say in a new report.

National security is threatened by the sharp rise in obesity rates for young people over the last 15 years, the group Mission: Readiness contends. Weight problems are now the leading medical reason that recruits are rejected, the group says, and thus jeopardize the military's ability to fill its ranks.

In a report released Tuesday, the group says that 9 million young adults, or 27 percent of all Americans ages 17 to 24, are too fat to join the military. The retired officers were with lawmakers advocating for passage of a wide-ranging nutrition bill that aims to make the nation's school lunches healthier.

The military group acknowledges that other things keep young adults out of the armed services, such as a criminal record or the lack of a high school diploma.

Although all branches of the military now meet or exceed recruitment goals, retired Navy Rear Adm.

James Barnett Jr., a member of the officers group, says the obesity trend could affect that.

"When over a quarter of young adults are too fat to fight, we need to take notice," Barnett said. He noted that national security in the year 2030 is "absolutely dependent" on reversing child obesity rates.

Recruitment is not the only problem posed by obesity. According to the report, the government spends tens of millions of dollars every year to train replacements for service members discharged because of weight problems.

This isn't the first time the military has gotten involved in the debate over school lunches. During World War II, military leaders had the opposite problem, reporting that many recruits were rejected because of stunted growth and inadequate nutrition. After the war, military leaders pushed Congress to establish the national school lunch program so children would grow up healthier.

The program was established in 1946, "as a measure of national security," according to the original bill language.

Today, the group is urging Congress to eliminate junk food and high-calorie beverages from schools, put more money into the school lunch program and develop

Eight-year-old Crystal Ojeda, left, chats with Kevin Concannon, USDA Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, during an appearance at Coronado Hills Elementary School in the north Denver suburb of Thornton, Colo., on Tuesday, April 6, 2010. U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet, D-Colo., and Concannon had lunch with the second-grade students before holding a roundtable discussion about issues surrounding childhood hunger, nutrition, physical activity and obesity.

Associated Press

new strategies that help children develop healthier habits.

The school lunch bill, currently awaiting a Senate vote, would establish healthier options for all foods in schools, including vending machine items. The legislation would spend \$4.5 billion more over 10 years for nutrition programs.

The Army is already doing its part to catch the problem earlier, working with high schoolers and interested recruits to lose weight before they are eligible for service, says U.S. Army Recruiting Command's Mark Howell. He added that he had to lose 10 pounds himself before he joined the military.

"This is the future of our Army we are looking at when we talk about these 17- to 24-year-olds," Howell said. "The sad thing is a lot of them want to join but can't." □



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House abandons vote bill for nation's capital.



In this Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010 file photo, Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, D-D.C., poses for a photograph in the rotunda of the Cannon House Office Building on Capitol Hill in Washington. The people of the nation's capital have waited more than two centuries to get a vote in Congress, and now it looks like Washington's roughly 600,000 residents will have to wait even longer. House members, including the District's nonvoting delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton, have been trying for the past year to find a formula that would allow a vote while satisfying the powerful gun rights lobby in Congress.

Associated Press

JIM ABRAMS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

The District of Columbia, as the U.S. capital is formally known, has waited more than two centuries to get a vote in Congress, and now it

looks like the city's roughly 600,000 residents will have to wait even longer.

Majority Leader Steny Hoyer announced Tuesday that lawmakers will not take up legislation this week giving D.C. residents a vote in the

House of Representatives, and said he was "profoundly disappointed."

The Democrat also said it was unlikely the enfranchisement bill, which became embroiled in a gun rights dispute and other issues, would be considered in the House later this year.

With Democrats, the main supporters of the legislation, expected to lose seats in the November election, the possibilities for resurrecting the measure next year were uncertain.

The bill would have increased full House membership from 435 to 437, giving District residents a vote while adding a temporary at-large seat for Republican-leaning Utah, which narrowly missed out on getting an extra seat after the 2000 census.

The House passed the bill in 2007 and the Senate approved it last year. But the Senate bill came with an amendment that would have forced the District to effectively eliminate its tough gun control laws.

House members, including the District's nonvoting delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton, have been trying for

the past year to find a formula that would allow a vote while satisfying the powerful gun rights lobby in Congress. But in the end, no resolution was reached.

Norton said she and Democratic leaders in the House were "shocked and blindsided" over the weekend to receive what she said was a National Rifle Association-drafted gun bill to accompany the voting act.

She said the proposal was even stronger than the gun provision passed in the Senate, barring the district from prohibiting or interfering with the carrying of firearms, either concealed or openly, in public. She said it would also have made it easy for people to carry firearms without permits and would stop the district from prohibiting guns in city-controlled buildings.

"The new sections will surely bring down the support we have had of anti-gun Democratic senators," she said.

At least six of the 13 members of the District of Columbia City Council, including the body's chairman, said they would not support the bill

with any amendment that would weaken the city's strict gun laws. The city's mayor, Adrian Fenty, had said he supported Norton's efforts to go forward with the bill. Fenty said he believed the majority of residents wanted to push forward on voting rights and that gun rights advocates would try to weaken the District's gun laws even without a voting rights bill.

Democratic gun control supporters in both the House and Senate indicated they might vote against the voting rights bill if the gun provision remained a part of it.

"I believe the District will become much less safe, and the opportunity for criminals, mentally unstable persons and juveniles to purchase weapons will increase dramatically," Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, said in a statement, adding she would vote against the bill if it repeals D.C.'s firearms laws.

Hoyer said there were a combination of factors in the decision not to take up the bill, but the bottom line was that "the price was too high." □

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Court voids law aimed at animal cruelty videos

MARK SHERMAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court, with only one dissenting vote Tuesday, struck down a U.S. ban on videos that show graphic violence against animals. The ruling cheered free speech advocates, but it raised concerns that more animals will be harmed.

The justices threw out the criminal conviction of Robert Stevens, who was sentenced to three years in prison for videos he made about pit bull fights.

The law was enacted in 1999 to limit Internet sales of so-called crush videos, which appeal to a certain sexual fetish by showing women crushing to death small animals with their bare feet or high-heeled shoes.

The videos virtually disappeared once the measure became law, the government argued. The Bush administration used the law for the first time when it indicted Stevens in 2004.

All 50 states have laws against animal cruelty, but the federal statute targeted the videos because it has been difficult to prosecute people who take part in violence against animals with a camera rolling, but

not showing their faces.

Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for the majority, said the law goes too far. He suggested that a measure limited to crush videos might be valid.

The Humane Society of the United States said it would press Congress to adopt a narrower ban on the sale of videos showing "malicious acts of cruelty." Rep. Earl Blumenauer, a Democrat, is looking at whether there is a way "to protect animal rights, which really is the main focus, without infringing on free speech," Blumenauer spokeswoman Erin Allweiss said. In dissent, Justice Samuel Alito, a dog owner himself, said the harm animals suffer in dogfights is enough to sustain the law. Alito's dog, Zeus, a springer spaniel, is sometimes seen around the court being walked by Alito's wife, Martha-Ann. Alito also said the ruling probably will spur new crush videos because it has "the practical effect of legalizing the sale of such videos." Humane Society President Wayne Pacelle said hundreds of crush videos appeared on the Internet after a federal appeals court ruled in Stevens' favor in 2008. □

Booby trap probe leads to California raids, arrests

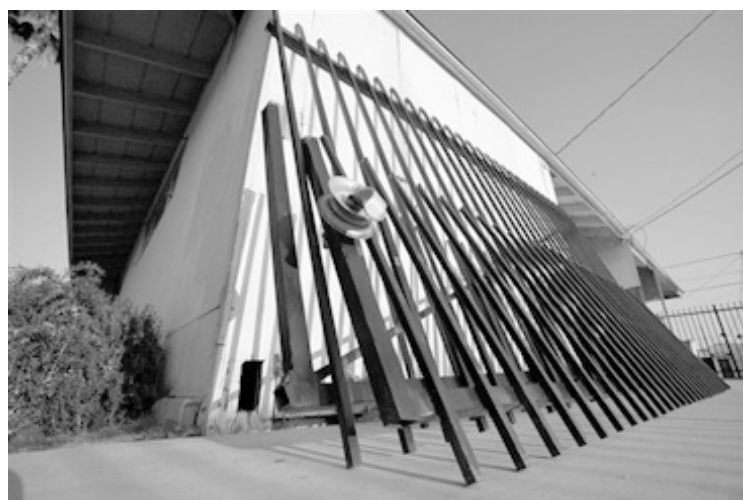
THOMAS WATKINS

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Southern California homes of dozens of white supremacists were raided Tuesday as part of a probe into a string of potentially deadly booby trap attacks targeting police officers, authorities said. Federal and local officers converged on 35 homes and took 16 people into custody in Riverside County for a variety of crimes, including weapons, narcotics and parole

violations, Hemet police Capt. Dave Brown said. None of the arrests were directly related to the booby trap attacks that have plagued the small Hemet Police Department since New Year's Eve. "But we hope some (arrests) will lead us to our suspects," Brown said. District Attorney Rod Pacheco said everyone arrested was connected to white supremacist groups. "They are upset with our

aggressive posture against all gangs," Pacheco said. "White supremacist gangs have been very violent, especially toward law enforcement." Hemet police have been targeted at least three times. In one case, a ballistic device strapped to a fence at the gang unit compound sent a bullet within inches of an officer's face. In another incident, someone rerouted a natural gas line at the compound, filling the building with flammable



In this Thursday March 18, 2010 file photo, parts of a fence that fronted a tract home that had been converted to a headquarters for the Riverside County Gang Task Force in Hemet, Calif. is shown. A ballistic device strapped to the fence sent a bullet within inches of an officer's face. The Southern California homes of dozens of white supremacists were raided Tuesday, April 20, 2010, as part of a probe into a string of potentially deadly booby trap attacks targeting police officers, authorities said.

Associated Press

Balloon boy parents to pay \$36K in restitution

FORT COLLINS, Colorado (AP) — The parents who pleaded guilty in the balloon boy hoax have agreed to pay about \$36,000 in restitution to authorities who responded to the incident.

Larimer County Chief Judge Stephen Schapanski accepted the agreement that prosecutors reached with Richard and Mayumi Heene, who weren't at Tuesday's hearing.

The Larimer County sheriff's office and other agencies had sought \$48,000 for responding to the Oct. 15 incident. The Heenes reported their 6-year-old son had floated away in a homemade UFO-shaped helium balloon, touching off a scramble of dozens of emergency responders and two Colorado National Guard helicopters.

The boy wasn't on the balloon and was later found at his home in Fort Collins, about 60 miles (100 kilometers) north of Denver. Authorities accused the Heenes of staging a hoax to get publicity for reality TV

shows they were trying to pitch.

The Heenes' attorneys had argued the couple should pay only a small amount in compensation. Richard Heene's attorney, David Lane, said in January that it appeared authorities wanted to make money on the episode.

The Heenes' attorneys didn't immediately return calls after business hours Tuesday.

Prosecutors reduced the amount sought, agreeing to drop the sheriff's request for investigative costs. Damage to a farmer's wheat crop where the balloon landed hasn't been calculated.

Richard Heene was sentenced to 90 days in jail for falsely influencing



In this Dec. 23, 2009 file photo, Richard and Mayumi Heene leave court after sentencing on in Fort Collins, Colo., in connection with the "Balloon Boy" hoax. The Heenes on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 agreed to pay about \$36,000 in restitution to authorities who responded to the incident.

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authorities. Mayumi Heene was sentenced to 20 days for filing a false report.

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vapor. No one was hurt. Four city trucks were set ablaze, and an explosive device was attached to an unmarked police car after an officer went into a convenience store. A fire at a police rifle range was being investigated as a possible arson. Pacheco stressed the investigation was ongoing, and detectives were exploring a variety of theories about who was responsible for the booby traps. Hemet police officials previously suspected the

Vagos motorcycle gang may have been behind the attacks. But a series of arrests did not lead to any charges. Tuesday's raids started before dawn and lasted throughout the morning. Most of the homes were in Hemet and the surrounding San Jacinto Valley, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) southeast of Los Angeles. Historically a rural retirement community, Hemet saw rapid growth during the real estate boom but has since been ravaged by the foreclosure crisis.



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Flights resume in E but travel chaos not over



A pilot gives the thumbs up to as gets the go ahead to leave Belfast City Airport, Northern Ireland, Tuesday, April, 20, 2010. Europe began allowing limited air traffic to resume, giving hope to millions of travelers stranded around the world when ash from a volcano in Iceland choked the jet age to a halt.

Associated Press

DAVID STRINGER

PAISLEY DODDS

Associated Press Writers

LONDON (AP) — Europe's busiest airport reopened Tuesday as air traffic across the

continent lurched back to life.

But the gridlock created by Iceland's volcanic ash plume was far from over: Officials said it would be weeks before all stranded travelers could be

brought home.

Passengers wept with relief as flights took off from Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport, Amsterdam and elsewhere. A jetliner from Vancouver,

British Columbia, was the first to land at London's Heathrow airport, the continent's busiest, since the volcano erupted last week.

British Airways said it expected about two dozen flights from the United States, Africa and Asia to land by early Wednesday.

Travelers cheered as the first European flights took off.

Jenny Lynn Cohen, waiting at Charles de Gaulle to travel to San Francisco, had a boarding pass but could hardly believe she was going to fly.

"I am a little afraid — I am hopeful that the plane will take off, and that it won't meet with any volcanic ash," she said.

Chris James, arriving at Heathrow from Mauritius, told the British Broadcasting Corp. that passengers on his flight didn't know they would land in London until 45 minutes before their plane touched down.

"Initially it was quite a stressful situation, we didn't know what was happening," James said.

The Eurocontrol air traffic agency said it expected just under half of the 27,500 flights over Europe to go ahead Tuesday, a marked improvement over the last few days. The agency predicted close to normal takeoffs by Friday.

It was the first day since the April 14 eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajokull (ay-yah-FYAH-lah-yer-kuhl) volcano — dormant for nearly 200 years — that travelers were given a reason for hope.

"The situation today is much improved," said Brian Flynn, deputy head of operations at the Brussels-based agency.

Conditions changed fast. Airspace in Germany remained officially closed, but about 800 flights were allowed at low altitude.

Rita and Peter Meyer said they had to share a hotel room with two strangers in Singapore while waiting to find a way home to Germany. News that they could fly to Frankfurt airport came as they slept.

"Just after midnight — after an hour's sleep — the phone rang (and they said), 'Everyone

downstairs, get in taxis to the airport,'" Rita Meyer said.

But with more than 95,000 flights canceled in the last week alone, airlines faced the enormous task of working through the backlog to get passengers where they want to go — a challenge that could take days or even weeks.

Passengers with current tickets were being given priority; those who had been stranded for days were told to either buy a new ticket or take their chances using the old one — a wait that could be days or weeks for the next available seat.

"Once your flight's canceled, you go to the back of the queue," said Laurie Price, director of aviation strategy at consultant Mott MacDonald, who was stranded in Halifax, Canada. "It seems intrinsically unfair."

The volcano that prompted the turmoil continued to rumble, and tremors could be heard and felt as far as 15 miles from the crater.

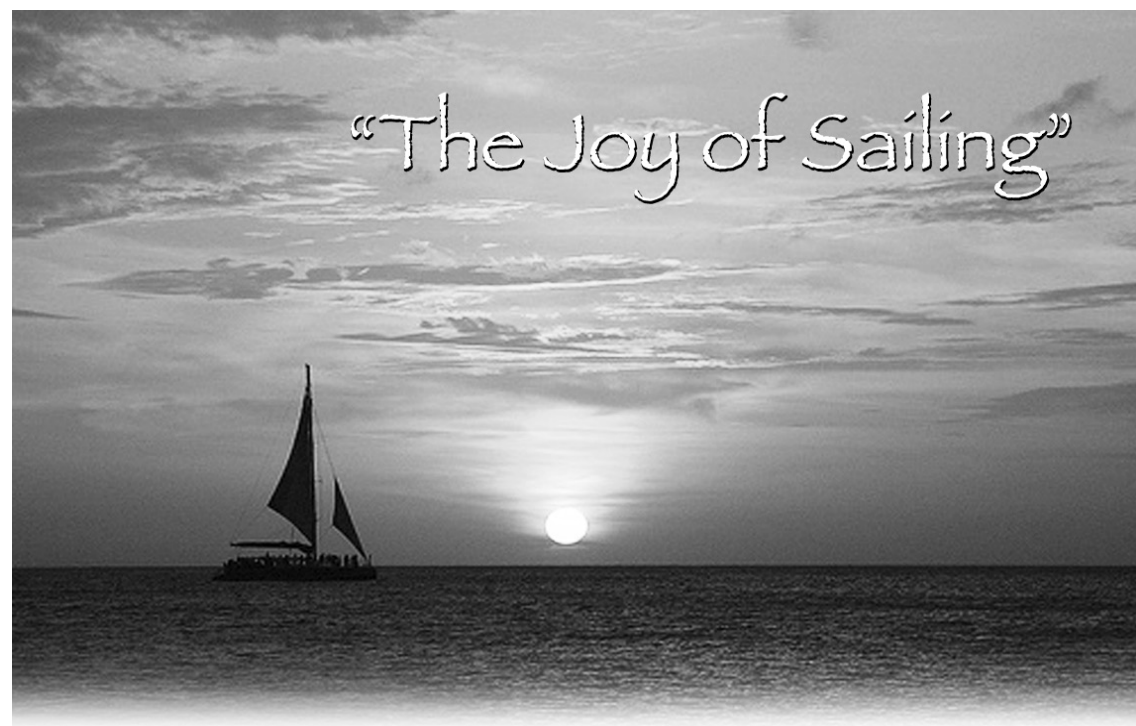
"It's like a shaking in the belly. People in the area are disturbed by this," said Kristin Vogfjord, a geologist at the Icelandic Met Office.

Land and water at farms in the ash zone have suffered since the volcano's eruption, with normally green pastures turned black and hard by the ash.

Vigtus Andresson said grazing land and water on his farm near the town of Hvolsvollur were contaminated, making it necessary to evacuate many of the horses and sheep he raises there. He said he also must slaughter some of his 29 horses because there is no place for them to go.

Scientists were worried that the eruption could trigger an even larger eruption at the nearby Katla volcano, which sits on the massive Myrdalsjokull icecap. Its last major eruption was in 1918.

"The activity of one volcano sometimes triggers the next one, and Katla has been active together with Eyjafjallajokull in the past," said Pall Einarsson, professor of geophysics at the Institute of Earth Sciences at the University of Iceland. □



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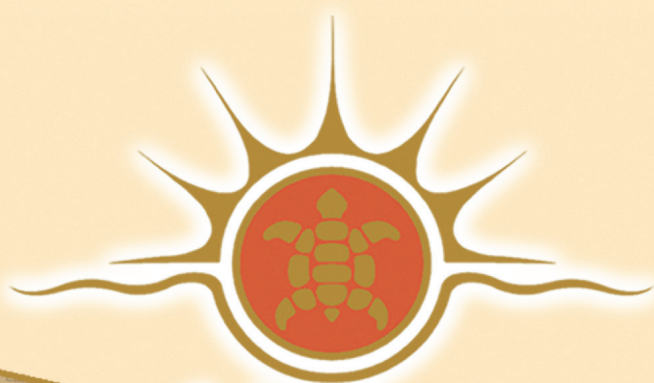
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Hotels in Bangkok sending tourists packing

JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's bloody political crisis has been scaring away tourists for weeks but took a new turn recently when some of the capital's finest hotels sent guests packing for fear of violence at their doorsteps.

The Grand Hyatt and InterContinental hotels in Bangkok told guests they would have to leave, while The Four Seasons remained open but closed all four of its restaurants and saw its cavernous lobby empty except for a few wilted orchids.

The hotels took action on one of the more relaxed days in the deadlock created by anti-government demonstrators who began occupying city streets more than five weeks ago. They abandoned plans to march into the heart of the capital's central business district Tuesday after soldiers in full combat gear were deployed to bar the way.

However, the failure to march did nothing to ease tensions. The so-called "Red Shirt" protesters reinforced defenses at their urban encampment and prepared homemade weapons, including hundreds of sharpened bamboo poles. The army in response said it would be prepared to use greater

force in any confrontations because of the danger posed by the weapons.

"The situation is very tense. We are relocating guests to other hotels for their safety," said Patty Lerdwittayaskul, a spokeswoman at the 380-room Grand Hyatt Erawan, which announced its closure until at least Saturday.

The nearby Holiday Inn and InterContinental also found safer accommodation for their guests and said new reservations would not be accepted until Monday.

The Red Shirts have occupied the capital's luxury hotel and shopping district for 18 days in their six-week bid to overthrow the government. Upscale malls closed almost immediately, as protesters transformed the area into a noisy and litter-strewn tent camp with outdoor showers and portable toilets for the thousands of supporters sleeping on the sidewalk.

The protesters, formally known as the United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship, initially were camped in a historic district of Bangkok. But a failed April 10 attempt by security forces to flush protesters from that neighborhood erupted into the worst political violence Thailand has seen in 18 years, leaving 25 dead and more than

800 wounded. It also prompted the protesters to consolidate in the shopping zone, which has become their strategic stronghold.

Tensions mounted again this week when the government deployed soldiers in combat gear near the shopping area, known as Rajprasong, to block a planned march to the nearby Silom Road business district. The march has been called off but a standoff remains that threatens greater damage to Thailand's vital tourism sector, which accounts for 6 percent of the economy.

"No more 'Land of Smiles' — the image has been destroyed," said Apichart Sankary, from the Federation of Thai Tourism Associations, referring to Thailand's tourist-friendly nickname. "Tourists are frightened to see military personnel carrying guns. They can't believe this is Thailand."

Hotel occupancy normally at 60 percent or 70 percent this time of year has slipped to an average of 30 percent, Apichart said. But hotels in the protest zone were far below the average. Retailers and hotels in the area say they have lost tens of millions of dollars. "You cannot stay here," a staffer in the InterContinental's lobby told a lone group of Egyptian



Thai anti-government protest leaders clasp hands in front of cheering fellow protesters in Bangkok Friday April 16, 2010 after evading arrest by Thai police in a nearby Bangkok hotel. Thailand's political crisis took a surreal twist Friday when protest leader Arisman Pongruangrong climbed down a hotel facade with a rope to evade arrest and drove off with two police officers taken hostage by his supporters.

guests who were due to check-out the following morning but were being transferred to a Marriott away from the protest zone. One of them, Walid Moustafa, a Cairo gem dealer, said he wasn't bothered by the protesters but found the relocation an inconvenience. "It's been a little bit noisy. But the Red Shirts were very nice," he said. "They allowed our taxis to come through. I think it's safe — just don't stay in this hotel."

Down the street, men dressed in black who serve as guards for the Red Shirts manned razor-wired checkpoints —

some in bulletproof vests. One section of pavement down the street from the Four Seasons was devoted to an arsenal of crude weaponry where Red Shirts sharpened hundreds of long bamboo rods and piled them into tall stacks. Broken up pavement stones were heaped in other piles.

"This could blow up any minute. Anybody that's here is here at their own risk," said 63-year-old American David M. McCollum, a Vietnam War veteran from Washington state who like many tourists brought his camera to the protest zone.



Associated Press

Argentina's last dictator gets 25 years in prison



Argentina's last dictator, former Gen. Reynaldo Benito Bignone, arrives to a courthouse for the verdict in his trial, along with five former generals and two others, who are accused of kidnappings and murders in one of the nation's largest torture centers, the Campo de Mayo military base, on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Associated Press

DEBORA REY

Associated Press Writer

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Argentina's last dictator was convicted and sentenced to 25 years in prison Tuesday for torture and kidnappings committed

during the nation's 1976-1983 military regime.

Reynaldo Bignone, 82, was convicted along with five other former military officers for 56 cases involving torture, illegal detentions and other crimes in one of Argentina's

largest torture centers, the Campo de Mayo military base.

Human rights groups say that of the 4,000 dissidents taken to the base, about 50 emerged alive. The army-run base also had a clandestine maternity center where detained dissidents gave birth only to have officials take their babies away to be adopted by military families. Bignone was de facto president from 1982 to 1983, but the crimes he was convicted of were committed between 1976 and 1978, when he was a commander at the Campo Mayo base.

The verdict was read by judge Marta Milloc in a small indoor stadium where many of those in attendance were family members of victims, who held up photos of their loved ones and applauded the ruling.

"Today is a good day for

Argentines," said Estela de Carlotto, president of the Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo human rights group. "We are in agreement (with the ruling), but a lot remains to be done. There are hundreds more accused." In the same ruling, five retired officers received sentences ranging from 17 to 25 years for their role in the cases, while a former police official was absolved.

Bignone, who is currently under house arrest, was not present. He was appointed president by the military junta in the waning years of the dictatorship and it fell to him to protect the military as Argentina returned to democracy. He granted amnesty to human rights violators and ordered the destruction of documents related to torture and disappearances of political opponents before agreeing

to transfer power to the democratically elected Raul Alfonsin.

Argentina's courts and congress eventually overturned the amnesty, and President Cristina Fernandez has made a priority of prosecuting leaders of the dictatorship.

Bignone has denied responsibility for the crimes in past court proceedings.

Before the sentence was read, Bignone said it has never been demonstrated that "more than 8,000" people disappeared during the dictatorship.

"In times of peace the disappearance of a single person mean one thing and in times of war it means something else," he said.

An official report listed 13,000 people killed during the 1976-83 dictatorship. Human rights groups say 30,000 died. □

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Church pedophilia scandal grows in Latin America

TALES AZZONI

Associated Press Writer

SAO PAULO (AP) — The detention of an 83-year-old priest in Brazil for allegedly abusing boys as young as 12 in a case involving lurid videotape and a congressional investigation has added to the scandals hitting the Roman Catholic Church in Latin America. The allegations against Monsignor Luiz Marques Barbosa — and two other Brazilian priests — have made headlines throughout the world's most populous Catholic nation and come amid accusations of sexual abuse by priests across the world.

The scandal erupted when Brazilian television network SBT last month broadcast a tape of Barbosa in bed with a 19-year-old that was widely distributed on the Internet.

The station said the video was secretly filmed in January 2009 and sent anonymously to the network. It was not clear if the 19-year-old, identified as a former altar boy who had worked with Barbosa for four years, had previous sexual relations with the priest.

SBT reporters went to Barbosa's house and confronted him. Asked if he ever abused boys, Barbosa said he could only answer such a question "in confession" and cut off the interview.

Brazil's legislature launched a sex abuse investigation, which produced allegations Barbosa molested boys. The elderly priest was detained late Sunday.

Judge Romulo Vasconcelos told Globo TV on Monday that he requested Barbosa's immediate detention out of fear the priest would flee the country.

The case now goes to prosecutors, who will decide whether to file child abuse charges.

Sen. Magno Malta, the

Brazilian lawmaker leading the legislature's probe, called Barbosa's detention a milestone in the fight against child abuse in Brazil.

Barbosa's lawyer, Edson Maia, plans to seek his release from detention, citing the man's advanced age and arguing that he has a fixed address and does not pose a flight risk, Brazil's O Estado de S. Paulo newspaper reported Tuesday.

Congressional investigators said more than 20 witnesses were called and some testified Barbosa and two other priests in the same northeastern archdiocese had abused boys as young as 12, plying them with money, clothes and other gifts.

Bishop Valerio Breda of the Penedo archdiocese in the northeastern state of Alagoas said recently that all three priests had been suspended and that the church was conducting its own investigation.

One of the accused priests, Edison Duarte, was given immunity for cooperating with authorities, Malta said in a statement issued by his senate office. The third priest — Raimundo Marques — also is being investigated but denies any wrongdoing. He has not been arrested.

Church officials have not responded to calls requesting information on where Barbosa and the other priests had worked in the past.

Barbosa told investigators that "he is not a pedophile," but after three former altar boys testified he had abused them, he asked for forgiveness, said Renato Paoliello, a spokesman for Malta.

Latin Americans priests have faced a cascade of accusations of abuse of minors recently.

Just this month, church officials in Uruguay confirmed they had not

revealed the whereabouts to police of a defrocked priest who fled home to his family in Uruguay after a nun accused him of raping three children in Bolivia.

And a priest in Chile was charged with eight cases of sexually abusing minors, including a girl he had fathered.

A Mexican woman charged in March that the deceased, scandal-tainted founder of a conservative Catholic religious order abused one of the two sons she said he fathered with her. The Legionaries of Christ, the order founded by the Rev. Marcial Maciel, acknowledged earlier in a separate case that Maciel had molested seminarians.

In a report last week, The Associated Press detailed how its reporters around the globe had found 30 cases of priests accused of abuse who were transferred or moved abroad by the church and some escaped police investigations. Many had access to children in other countries, and some abused again. The probe spanned 21 nations across six continents.

Feeding the controversy, Pope Benedict XVI's second-in-command outraged many last week in Chile when he said homosexuality and not celibacy was the primary reason for the abuse.

"Many psychologists and psychiatrists have demonstrated that there is no relation between celibacy and pedophilia. But many others have demonstrated, I have been told recently, that there is a relation between homosexuality and pedophilia. That is true," Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone told reporters April 12 at a news conference in Santiago. "That is the problem."

The comments by Bertone, the Vatican's secretary of state, were condemned by gay advocacy groups,



Monsignor Luiz Marques Barbosa, 83, left, testifies at a congressional investigative panel next to state congressman Magno Malta in Alagoas, northeastern Brazil, Monday, April 19, 2010. Barbosa's detention for allegedly abusing boys as young as 12 has added to the scandals hitting the Roman Catholic Church in Latin America, even as Chile's bishops asked pardon on Tuesday for past sexual abuse cases.

Associated Press

politicians and even the French government.

On Sunday, a teary-eyed Pope Benedict XVI met with abuse victims in Malta and said the church will do everything possible to protect children and bring abusive priests to justice, the Vatican said.

The emotional moment carried no new admissions

from the Vatican, which has strongly rejected accusations that efforts to cover up for abusive priests were directed by the church hierarchy for decades. But the pontiff told the men that the church would "implement effective measures" to protect children, the Vatican said, without offering details. □

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FILE - In this March 5, 2009 file photo, US singer Michael Jackson is shown at a press conference in London.

(AP Photo/Joel Ryan, file)

By RYAN NAKASHIMA,
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES — First the Beatles and Elvis, now Michael Jackson.

The acrobatic troupe Cirque du Soleil announced Tuesday that it will put on a live touring show featuring the songs of the King of Pop starting late

Cirque to put on show based on Michael Jackson

next year.

That will be followed by a permanent production in Las Vegas in 2012 at a property owned by MGM Mirage Inc. The casino company did not say which venue will host the show. A nightclub in Las Vegas will also open with the show.

Cirque and Jackson's estate will each own 50 percent of the projects and share equally in the cost of putting them on. The estate will also receive royalties from the use of Jackson's music and other assets.

Jackson, who died at age 50 last June after a drug overdose, was described as a "huge fan" of the French Canadian performance group.

He saw their first tent show in Santa Monica, Calif., many years ago with longtime lawyer and now estate co-executor,

John Branca. And he visited their Montreal headquarters in 2004, Cirque CEO Daniel Lamarre said.

"He said he was an acrobat himself," Lamarre said in an interview. "As an artist he had this amazing way of bringing some visual element to his performances."

The touring show, which will begin in North America before branching out around the world, will be a simulation of a Jackson concert, while the Las Vegas show will be more theatrical and more technologically advanced, Lamarre said.

"The expectations of Michael Jackson fans around the world are going to be huge," he said. "And we have to deliver."

There are no plans for other members of Jackson's family to perform.

Before Jackson decided on a

series of comeback concerts at the O2 arena in London, he was seen several years ago in Las Vegas and considered performing there.

Branca said Jackson would have approved of a Cirque tribute.

"I'm not convinced he would have gone to Las Vegas and performed like Celine Dion did," he said in an interview.

"But this is something Michael would be very excited about." Unreleased Jackson recordings may become part of the shows' musical numbers, and his biggest hits will likely be remixed and mashed up so fans will hear his music in a new way, Branca said.

The other co-executor, John McClain, a Jackson friend and music producer, has discovered more than 60 songs that Jackson recorded but never released. They form

the backbone of a seven-year deal with Sony Music Entertainment worth up to \$250 million. A new album from the recordings is set for release in November.

Jackson's mother, Katherine, said in a statement, "Our family is thrilled that Cirque du Soleil will pay tribute to my son in such an important way."

Jackson died after overdosing on propofol and other sedatives. He was about to start a series of comeback concerts he called "This Is It." The concert movie based on rehearsal footage went on to gross \$252 million worldwide.

His personal physician, Dr. Conrad Murray, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of involuntary manslaughter. He is expected to go to trial this summer. □

Rapper Guru dies at 43 after battle with cancer

By MESFIN FEKADU,
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Guru, the influential rapper known for his conscious and intellectual themes, his monotone delivery, and his combination of jazz sounds with hip-hop beats, has died after battling cancer, collaborators said. He was 43.

The world has lost "one of the best MCs and hip-hop icons of all time," according to a statement from Solar, Guru's producer. It was posted on the Web site of DJ Premier, who with Guru made up the rap duo Gang Starr. The site said Guru died Monday.

E-mails from The Associated Press to Solar and his assistant were not immediately returned. The statement also features a letter Guru wrote before his death. In it, he thanks Solar for his friendship, speaks about his son KC and his nonprofit cancer organization, Each One Counts. He also dismissed his relationship with Premier, saying, "I do not wish my ex-DJ to have anything to do with my name."

"I write this with tears in my



eyes, not of sorrow but of joy for what a wonderful life I have enjoyed and how many great people I have had the pleasure of meeting," it read.

Guru, whose real name was Keith Elam, was born near Boston and later moved to New York. His first album as a member of Gang Starr, "No More Mr. Nice Guy," was released in 1989. They released more albums as a duo, including the gold-selling "Moment of Truth" in 1998. The group's first hit was "Words I Manifest," which samples Miles Davis and Charlie Parker's "A Night In Tunisia." Other hits include "Dwyck," "Just to Get a Rep" and "Take It Personal."

Guru moved on as a solo artist in 1993, releasing "Jazzmatazz, Vol. 1," which featured a blend of jazz melodies and hip-hop sounds. He released four volumes of the "Jazzmatazz" series. He attended Morehouse College. □

Anthony Hopkins reaches a "Final Destination"

By Bob Tourtellotte

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — What's the downside to digital special effects and 3D movies overtaking theaters? One, at least, is that fans may lose sight of actors like Anthony Hopkins.

At 72 years-old, the Oscar winner says offers of work have slowed in recent years, and he finds roles in movies such as his current "The City of Your Final Destination," to be most enjoyable because films like it "are very quiet and internal."

That is not to say that Sir Anthony doesn't care to work with big action and special effects. He performed in recent horror tale "The Wolfman" and in computer animated "Beowulf."

But with big-budget movies like "Avatar" or "Clash of the Titans" dominating major studio releases -- movies in which the acting is done in front of green screens, and sets and stunts are digitally added into the films -- character-driven dramas such as "City of Your Final Destination," get less marketing money and play on far fewer screens.

As a result, performances such as Hopkins's portrayal of an eccentric, older gentleman named Adam -- his first time playing a gay man on screen -- often fail to reach theater

audiences.

"I've done a couple of green screens, and if they work that's great," he said. "But now the audience is so smart, and I think you watch some movies, and you can tell it's green screen, and somehow that looks detached" from the acting.

That won't happen with "City of Your Final Destination," which was directed by James Ivory from a screenplay by Ruth Prawer Jhabvala.

Along with Ivory's producing partner Ismail Merchant, who died in 2005, the trio were responsible for hit dramas such as "Howards End" and "The Remains of the Day," the 1993 movie that earned Hopkins his second Oscar nomination. He also won for playing killer Hannibal Lecter in 1991's "The Silence of the Lambs."

But Merchant Ivory productions fell on harder times in the late 1990s and 2000s as action movies and comic book flicks gained ever greater clout in Hollywood. Their "The Golden Bowl" (2000) and "Le Divorce" (2003) bombed at box offices.

END OF THE DAY? "City of Your Final Destination," which was made in 2007 but is just now seeing a limited release in major U.S. cities over the next several months, tells of a young man who wants to write a biography of a deceased



novelist named Jules Gund.

So, he travels to Gund's home in a rural section of a Latin American country to obtain permission from the writer's family. There he meets the writer's sister Caroline (Laura Linney), his live-in mistress Arden (Charlotte Gainsbourg) and gay brother Adam (Hopkins) who shares the guest house with his lover.

What plays out is a sort of family drama that, at every twist and turn, peels back the facade of the Gund family and of the writer himself.

The setting is lush, the acting from top craftsmen and women, and the directing and writing by a team that was once at the top of Hollywood's pecking order. In short, it is a movie that, perhaps only for now, is out of favor in Hollywood and confined to so-called "art house" theaters. □

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Stocks advance on higher earnings, energy prices

By STEPHEN BERNARD
and TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Another round of improved earnings reports and higher energy prices lifted the stock market.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose about 30 points in afternoon trading Tuesday. Broader indexes outpaced the Dow.

Investors set aside some concerns about a potential overhaul of financial regulation and the government's civil fraud case against Goldman Sachs Group Inc. Traders instead looked to improved earnings reports.

Beyond earnings, a bounce in the price of crude oil after a two-week slide helped energy stocks. Dow stocks Exxon Mobil Corp. and Chevron Corp. rose.

Industrial equipment maker Illinois Tool Works Inc., regional bank Marshall & Ilsley Corp. and motorcycle maker Harley-Davidson Inc. all rose after reporting earnings.

Goldman Sachs said its first-quarter profit doubled on an improvement in trading revenue, but the stock slipped on concerns about the company's legal troubles.

Investors looking to lock in profits sold some of the companies that posted stronger earnings. Still, the tone of earnings reports offered investors more signs that the economy is rebounding. Apple Inc. and Yahoo Inc. are scheduled to report quarterly results after the closing bell Tuesday.

Bill Stone, chief investment strategist at PNC Wealth Management in Philadelphia, said the market climbed with little break ahead of



the earnings reports so a slowdown isn't unexpected now that earnings are starting to arrive.

"We got paid ahead for this earnings period," Stone said.

The market has rocketed higher since major stock indexes hit 12-year lows more than 13 months ago. Tuesday's move higher extended a streak of steady gains seen in the past two months. Improving economic and earnings reports have given investors more confidence that the economy will mount a sustained recovery.

In midafternoon trading, the Dow rose 35.37, or 0.3 percent, to 11,121.90. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 8.67, or 0.7 percent, to 1,206.19. The Nasdaq composite index rose 16.79, or 0.7 percent, to 2,496.90.

Four stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 568 million shares, compared with 635 million traded at the same point Monday.

The Dow rose 73 points for the day Monday after being lower throughout much of the day on concerns about the fallout from the charges against Goldman. The index climbed 100 points during the

last two hours of trading.

Bond prices were mixed. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.81 percent from 3.80 percent late Monday.

The dollar fell, while gold rose.

Crude oil rose \$1.83 to \$83.28 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Oil has fallen in eight of the past nine trading days since reaching \$87 per barrel. Disruptions to air travel from the volcanic eruption in Iceland is hurting demand for jet fuel.

Analysts said that the rise in stocks was a sign that the slow grind higher is continuing after a slide last week. The market fell Friday after the Securities and Exchange Commission said Goldman Sachs failed to tell clients about conflicts of interest in mortgage investments it sold. Goldman has denied wrongdoing and vowed to fight the charges.

Doug Roberts, chief investment strategist at Channel Capital Research in Shrewsbury, N.J., said the market is able to resume its climb in part because the government has flooded the financial system with so much cash that some of it ends up in stocks.

Among stocks in the news, Goldman Sachs fell \$1.92, or 1.2 percent, to \$161.40. □



FILE - In this Oct. 6, 2008 file photo, then Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. Chief Executive Richard S. Fuld Jr., testifies before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington. The former Lehman Brothers CEO will tell House lawmakers Tuesday, April 20, 2010 that he has 'absolutely no recollection whatsoever' about an accounting maneuver that a bankruptcy examiner says the company used to mask its perilous financial condition. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh, File)

SEC

Continued from Front Page

Schapiro, who was not with the SEC at the time, said the agency is scrutinizing Lehman's use of the accounting move, known as Repo 105, that allowed it to mask its weakness.

Her testimony follows widespread criticism that the SEC failed to properly monitor Wall Street ahead of the Great Recession, and after the agency filed civil fraud charges Friday against Goldman Sachs.

Tuesday's hearing examining what led to Lehman's meltdown drew lawmakers into a partisan squabble over the Obama administration's push for financial regulatory reform. Republicans pointed to the track records of the SEC and other agencies as evidence that more regulation won't prevent future meltdowns. Lehman's collapse was the biggest corporate bankruptcy

in U.S. history and threw global financial markets into crisis. The hearing looked at the bankruptcy examiner's report, which said the firm masked \$50 billion in debt. Schapiro said the SEC is examining "the truthfulness of the disclosure" in Lehman's financial filings. "It's not clear any action by the SEC could have saved Lehman Brothers, but we are determined to use the lessons of that experience to be more effective," Schapiro said. "More vigorous oversight and a new approach are essential."

Richard Fuld, Lehman's former CEO, said he has "absolutely no recollection whatsoever" of any documents related to the so-called Repo 105 accounting maneuver. After reviewing the transactions, he said the firm complied with accounting standards.

Fuld expressed regret about the company's collapse.

"One day we had a firm," he said. "The next day we did not. A lot of people got hurt by that, and I have to live with that." Michael Lee, a former Lehman vice president, testified that he tried to alert Lehman managers to concerns he had about Lehman's accounting. He sent a letter in May 2008 to top executives. After that, he said, "somebody came into my office, pulled me out and fired me on the spot."

The bankruptcy examiner, Anton Valukas, criticized the company and the SEC.

"Although the public had a right to expect that firms like Lehman were being regulated in a meaningful way, in reality, they were not," Valukas told lawmakers. Regulators, he said, missed opportunities to alter Lehman's conduct "before its situation had reached the point of no return." □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Mexican golf star Lorena Ochoa retires

STEPHEN WADE

AP Sports Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP) —

Lorena Ochoa is retiring, just as Annika Sorenstam did two years ago, leaving the struggling LPGA Tour without its No. 1 player again and depriving the sport of one of its great ambassadors.

Ochoa, probably the best-known athlete in Mexico who is not a football player, announced her surprise decision Tuesday and will discuss her plans Friday.

The 28-year-old got married last year, setting off speculation she might be putting golf aside to raise a family. She has been No. 1 in the world the last three years and won 27 times over the last six.

Continued on Page 14



In this Oct. 4, 2009 file photo, Mexico's Lorena Ochoa tees off on the second hole during the final round of the Navistar LPGA Classic golf tournament at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Capitol Hill in Prattville, Ala. Ochoa, the No. 1-ranked woman in world golf, announced her retirement from the game in a short statement on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Associated Press

NHL Roundup

Bergeron lifts Bruins past Sabres 2-1 in Game 3

BOSTON (AP) — Patrice Bergeron scored the go-ahead goal six minutes from fulltime to give the Boston Bruins a 2-1 win on Monday night and a 2-1 lead over the Buffalo Sabres in their Eastern Conference playoff series.

Mark Recchi bumped Tim Kennedy off the puck in the right corner behind the Buffalo net and fed it to Bergeron, whose quick shot from the right circle beat Ryan Miller. The sixth-seeded Bruins are home again for Game 4 on Wednesday night.

Mike Grier had given third-seeded Buffalo a 1-0 lead at 6:57 of the first period before Dennis Wideman equalized less than 9 minutes later.

Capitals 5, Canadiens 1

At Montreal, Alexander Ovechkin scored the fourth goal of Washington's second-period outburst, leading the Capitals past Montreal for a 2-1 lead in their Eastern

Conference series.

Semyon Varlamov made 26 saves in his first start of the series for Washington, which has won two in a row after losing the opener 3-2 in overtime.

Boyd Gordon, Brooks Laich and Eric Fehr each scored within a span of 7:27 as the Capitals chased Jaroslav Halak 8:33 into the second.

Tomas Plekanec spoiled Varlamov's shutout bid with a power-play goal 2:25 into the third. Matt Bradley scored the Capitals' final goal with 44.1 seconds left in the third.

Kings 5, Canucks 3

At Los Angeles, Michal Handzus scored two power-play goals and Drew Doughty had a goal and three assists as the Kings chased Vancouver goalie Roberto Luongo during a 5-3 victory over the Canucks on Monday night, taking a 2-1 series lead in their first home postseason game in



Boston Bruins center Patrice Bergeron (37) celebrates his goal as he skates back to the bench during the third period of Game 3 against the Buffalo Sabres in an NHL hockey playoff series in Boston on Monday, April 19, 2010.

Associated Press

eight years. Brad Richardson and Ryan Smyth also scored and Jonathan Quick made 25 saves as the sixth-seeded Kings moved ahead in the best-of-seven series with another standout game from their relentless power play,

which has seven goals after connecting three more times in Game 3.

Mikael Samuelsson scored his fourth goal of the series for Vancouver, which trimmed a three-goal deficit to 4-3 before the Kings finished strong. □



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James, right, drives past Chicago Bulls' Luol Deng, from Sudan, in the fourth quarter of Game 2 in the first round of the NBA basketball playoffs Monday, April 19, 2010, in Cleveland. James scored 40 points to lead Cleveland to a 112-102 win.

Associated Press

NBA Roundup

LeBron's 40 lead Cavaliers over Bulls

CLEVELAND (AP) —

LeBron James scored 40 points and took over in the fourth quarter as the Cleveland Cavaliers maintained home-court advantage by beating the Bulls 112-102 on Monday night to take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

James added eight rebounds and eight assists for the Cavs, who led 96-93 with 4:30 left before the league's soon-to-be-two-time Most Valuable Player decided to dominate.

James dropped a 3-pointer that he capped with a quick dance move and wink toward Chicago's bench, made two free throws, a layup and two jumpers, scoring 11 straight as Cleveland opened a 107-98 lead with 1:36 left.

Game 3 is Thursday night in Chicago.

At Denver, Deron Williams led the injury-riddled Jazz to victory over the Denver Nuggets to level their Western Conference playoff series at 1-1. □

Howard wins consecutive defensive player awards

ANTONIO GONZALEZ
Associated Press Writer

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Dwight Howard won his second straight NBA defensive player of the year award on Tuesday after becoming the only player to lead the league in blocks and rebounds in the same season twice — let alone in consecutive years.

Now 24, perhaps the next step for Howard is improving his offensive game enough to sway voters that he should win the Most Valuable Player award. Cleveland's LeBron James seems certain to take that honor again, and Howard said voters should factor in defense more.

"I think most people look at Most Valuable Player as somebody who scores a lot of points, which is great. I believe that defense wins championships, wins games," said Howard, who averaged 18.3 points per game. "I've always thought about it like that, and I'll continue to think about it like that."

The Orlando Magic's All-Star center received 576 total points, including 110 first-place votes from a panel of 122 NBA writers and broadcasters. Atlanta's Josh Smith was second with 136 points, and Charlotte's Gerald Wallace finished third with 113.

Howard averaged 13.2 rebounds and 2.8 blocks per game this season, powering the Magic to the league's second-best record behind Cleveland. Only Bill Walton, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Hakeem Olajuwon and Ben Wallace each led the NBA in those categories once in the same season. Blocks were not kept as an official statistic until 1973.

"I think it speaks very highly of him, at 24, he's winning the award twice," Magic coach Stan Van

Gundy said.

Howard already was the youngest player to win the award last season. Players and coaches believe he could take the honors for years to come.

The man they call Superman swooped in to effect more shots than he blocked this season, changing games with his presence in the paint. Howard has been a matchup nightmare against almost every team, the main reason the Magic kept opposing shooters to an NBA-low 43.8 percent shooting.

The No. 1 overall draft pick out of high school in 2004, Howard has quickly become one of the most dominant centers. His chiseled, 6-foot-11, 275-pound (2.11-meter, 125-kilogram) physique makes him one of the most intimidating players, and his incredible vertical leap is even rarer for a big man. Certainly not a player easy to get around.

"You always have to know he's going to be there. He has great instinct," teammate Vince Carter said. "You know if you beat your man, you still have to get around Dwight."

Howard led the Magic to the NBA finals last year,

losing to the Los Angeles Lakers in five games. The Magic also have won three straight Southeast Division titles, and they had 59 wins in the regular season for the second straight year.

Orlando leads Charlotte 1-0 in the first round of the playoffs. Howard blocked nine shots in the opener, enough for Bobcats coach Larry Brown to call him the "most valuable player" of the game despite scoring just five points.

Game 2 is on Wednesday.

Howard is the seventh player to win the award in back-to-back seasons, joining Wallace, Olajuwon, Dikembe Mutombo, Alonzo Mourning, Dennis Rodman and Sidney Moncrief. Wallace and Mutombo each won the award a league-record four times.

Howard might get there one day.

The gold NBA title trophy would be even more special.

"It means a lot, but there's just one trophy that we all want here," Howard said. "Everybody in this city wants it, and it's on us. It starts with me blocking shots, rebounding and being a big defensive presence." □



Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard, right, blocks a shot attempt by Charlotte Bobcats guard Raymond Felton (20) during the first half of Game 1 in the first round of the NBA basketball playoffs in Orlando, Fla., Sunday, April 18, 2010.

Associated Press

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In this March 31, 2010 file photo, Mexico's Lorena Ochoa lines up a putt on the second green during the pro-am round of the LPGA Kraft Nabisco Championship golf tournament in Rancho Mirage, Calif. Ochoa, the No. 1-ranked woman in world golf, announced her retirement from the game in a short statement on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

LORENA RETIRES Continued from Page 12

"Lorena Ochoa confirms her retirement from the LPGA, as news reports in some media have said today," her statement said. "The reasons and more details on the matter will be given by Lorena personally in a press conference on Friday in Mexico City. Lorena will share this news of a new

stage in her life with her sponsors, family members and friends."

The LPGA told The Associated Press it would not comment until Friday's news conference.

The LPGA said late Tuesday that Ochoa had not withdrawn from next week's Tres Marias event in Morelia, west of Mexico City, and indicated she

was expected to play. She finished fourth earlier this month in the Kraft Nabisco Championship in California, the first major of the year. "I'm just crushed," Judy Rankin, a Hall of Famer and television analyst, said upon hearing the news. "We won't get to see her play golf. Mostly, we won't get to see her."

Sorenstam was 37 when she retired in May 2008, saying she wanted to pursue other interests and start a family. She now has a daughter.

The newspaper Reforma first reported Ochoa's retirement and said she wanted to concentrate on her family and charities. In December, she wed Andres Conesa, the chief executive of Aeromexico airline. He has three children from a previous marriage.

"I must admit that I was surprised, but not shocked, when I heard the news yesterday that Lorena is going to retire," Sorenstam said on her blog. "She has always said she would play for maybe 10 years and then leave the game to start a family. She just got married and obviously feels that she is ready for that next chapter in her life."

Ochoa has also talked openly about wanting children of her own. Last year, she began traveling

more, playing less and taking on more obligations, which include her charity foundation.

"Personally, it's more important the things that I do outside the golf course," Ochoa said last year before a tournament she hosts in her hometown of Guadalajara. "And that's been my main focus right now."

"I will think about a family, but later on," added Ochoa, often described as an "awesome person" by other players.

Her retirement is a blow to an LPGA Tour buffeted by the rough economy. It has only 25 tournaments on its schedule this year, 14 of them in the United States. Sorenstam became the face of the tour by winning the career Grand Slam, becoming the only woman to shoot 59 and playing in the Colonial, the first woman in 58 years to compete on the PGA Tour.

Ochoa never quite assumed that star power, playing before moderate crowds even as she was going for a record-tying fifth straight victory in Tulsa, Okla., two years ago.

Ochoa was defined as much by her dominance as her graciousness. Mindful of her roots, she often would go to the maintenance barn during LPGA Tour events and speak with the

workers, many of them from Mexico.

She won six times in 2006, rose to No. 1 in 2007 and captured her first major at St. Andrews the same year by winning the Women's British Open. Ochoa's other major was the 2008 Kraft Nabisco Championship, where she took the traditional jump into the pond with her family as a mariachi band serenaded her.

She won her fourth consecutive LPGA Tour player of the year award in 2009, narrowly holding off Jiyai Shin. Ochoa played four times this year, with her best finish at the Kraft Nabisco Championship when she finished fourth.

Shin of South Korea is No. 2 in the rankings and Yani Tseng of Taiwan, this year's Kraft Nabisco winner, is No. 3. Both are in position to fill the void left by Ochoa.

There is also Michelle Wie, who won her first tournament last season and may have the star wattage the LPGA is looking for. Wie is ranked No. 9.

Sorenstam said she is happy for Ochoa, although acknowledging the LPGA will "certainly miss her great play, warm demeanor and smile."

"The most rewarding days are ahead of her, and I wish her all the best," she said.

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Aruba TODAY

AL Roundup

Upton's 3-run homer seals Rays' win over Red Sox

BOSTON (AP) — B.J. Upton capped a five-run third inning with a three-run homer as the Tampa Bay Rays completed a four-game sweep of the Boston Red Sox with an 8-2 win victory Monday in the annual Patriots Day game.

Jeff Niemann pitched seven sharp innings to help Tampa Bay win its seventh straight, all on the road, and match the club's best winning streak away from Tropicana Field in one season.

It was also Tampa Bay's first sweep of a series three games or more in Fenway Park.

John Lackey, who signed a 5-year, \$82.5-million contract with Boston during the offseason, allowed eight runs and nine hits in only 3 1-3 innings.

The Red Sox are off to their worst start since opening 1996. Boston was 0 for 30 with runners in scoring position in the series, with Jeremy Hermida's two-run homer the only runs in the series finale. Mariners 8, Orioles 2

At Seattle, Doug Fister took a no-hitter into the seventh inning and Ken Griffey Jr. and Casey Kotchman combined to drive in five runs in Seattle's

win.

After a two-out walk in the first, Fister retired the next 16 batters before Nick Markakis opened the seventh with a clean single to center.

Griffey had a two-run single in the Mariners' 7-run third inning and Kotchman hit a two-run home run in the third and a RBI double in the seventh.

Jack Wilson also had three hits, including two doubles.

Orioles starter Brad Bergesen lasted only 2 2-3 innings. He was charged with six hits, seven runs, though only four were earned, and walked three without a strikeout.

Fister finished with three hits and one seven innings. He walked one and struck on three.

Angels 2, Tigers 0

At Anaheim, California, Joel Pineiro pitched into the eighth inning and Fernando Rodney got the save against his former team, closing out Los Angeles' win over Detroit.

The Angels won their fourth straight after beginning the season 2-6.

Pineiro allowed nine hits in 7 1-3 innings, struck out four and walked none.



Tampa Bay Rays' B.J. Upton is greeted by teammate Carlos Pena (23) after Upton's three-run home run during the third inning as Boston Red Sox catcher Victor Martinez looks on in a MLB baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston Monday, April 19, 2010.

The right-hander started two inning-ending double plays — one on a line drive by Alexei Avila that trapped Brandon Inge off first base in the second, the other on a comebacker by Miguel Cabrera in the sixth.

Dontrelle Willis allowed two runs and four hits over seven innings and struck out two.

Blue Jays 8, Royals 1

At Toronto, Jose Bautista hit

two home runs and Brandon Morrow pitched seven innings as the Blue Jays ended a three-game losing streak.

Travis Snider also homered to help the Blue Jays win for the 18th time in 22 home games against Kansas City.

Attendance was 10,314, the smallest crowd in the 22-year history of Rogers Centre and breaking the mark set last

Wednesday, when Toronto drew 10,610 for a game against the Chicago White Sox.

Morrow allowed one run and three hits, lowering his ERA from 12.00 to 7.31. He walked two and struck out eight.

Kansas City right-hander Brian Bannister allowed six runs and seven hits in 5 1-3 innings, raising his ERA from 2.19 to 4.58. □

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Marks the start of a major renovation process of Oranjestad and San Nicolas

New Main Street entrance inaugurated



ORANJESTAD — The first phase of the multimillion beautification project of the Aruba Main Street is now completed, and now the focus is on the restoration of the Aruba Historic Center. Prime Minister Mike Eman, who officiated the opening of the renovated entrance to Main Street in presence of Minister of Infrastructure Benny Sevinger, said soon Aruba will have its own renovated historic center including an improved Government building. The next phase also includes the renovations at the historic Court House, including the park in front of the building

across the Emanstraat. Prime Minister Eman said the project will give the entire area a complete new dimension in its development. An improved Main Street connected to a historic center, and on the other side the renovated Court House and park, as well as a restored Watertower further down the street means a drastic improvement of the Aruba product for locals and tourists alike, according to Eman. He attributed the progress on these renovation projects to a dynamic 'infrateam,' whose members work day and night to push the work. The team is not only focusing on

Oranjestad, but also has plans for San Nicolas. The intention is to reactivate the Aruba industrial town with similar renovation plans. These include projects to improve quality of life in some 15 residential areas in San Nicolas. The government hopes that with investments in facilities for youngsters in particular and all residents in general, it will spur community efforts in working together to further improve living conditions for all, including those who have special, social, needs. According to the Prime Minister, the efforts to improve quality of life for Arubans took off symbolically with the opening of the Main Street entrance. The visual need and changes are crucial for economic change, with the government taking the lead role to stimulate the economy. Another important step in expanding economic possibility is the construction of a new four-lane highway between Oranjestad and San Nicolas. Even though many environmentalists are set



against such projects, others, particularly San Nicolas business leaders, see it as a condition for development and progress. Prime Minister Eman said Minister of Transport of The Netherlands Carmine Eurlings will visit Aruba next month, to see how The Netherlands can cooperate and help out in planning the major undertaking. Eurlings will be accompanied by Dutch experts who will assist Aruba in the planning process of the Oranjestad-San Nicolas

highway and also the so-called 'ringweg 3', a new highway route that has been designed for some time to bring relief to the heavy traffic congestion that typifies Oranjestad, in particular. According to Eman, these projects mean investing in Aruba and will stimulate economic activities, in a time of crisis. "These are necessary investments, and the government will use public funds for valuable projects," he emphasized. □



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Marketing conference at the Aruba tourism faculty showed

'Aruba' brand requires investment, integral innovation



ORANJESTAD — Differential competitiveness has diminished and in order to stand out again as a tourist destination, the private sector needs to be involved in the future development of the industry. That is just one of the conclusions presented during the first Conference on Marketing of the University of Aruba, 'Branding Beyond Boundaries.'

Various local and international experts elaborated on the topics of destination marketing and quality of the tourism product, in a full house University of Aruba aula. Among the attendees were students but also business leaders who recognized the value of learning more about new trends in consumer demands, trends that require a new thinking and a new approach to marketing.

University Rector Dr. Lydia Emerencia opened the conference, stating the importance of development of knowledge, and why investigation is imperative for innovation and improvement

of the 'Aruba' brand and product.

Tourism Faculty Dean and investigator Dr. Ryan Peterson focused on the 'Branding Beyond Boundaries,' shining the light on international and regional developments with regard to marketing and the competitiveness of tourist destinations. He explored the creation of an image or brand and the value of such for a particular destination, including Aruba.

Peterson also showed new models of imaging rearing their heads within the Caribbean.

The Tourism Faculty Dean was able to demonstrate the dynamics of competitive positions of various countries through the presentation of various images, and thus was able to illustrate the value of national marketing is for tourism. And in addition, national marketing or reaching out to the community itself has a major role in achieving international commerce, as it helps attract new investment which in turn will help develop and diversify national economies. "More that a tourism tool, a national brand is essential for social, economic and political development of a country, particularly when establishing and fortifying international relations," Dr. Peterson emphasized.

He also showed the process of the past decade, during which the design of various 'brands' have undergone changes and adaptations, and how countries can loose their

competitive position if they do not pay attention to their national brand.

Keynote speaker, internationally recognized expert on destination images, Dr. Marcella Daye, also spoke about the theme. Dr. Daye said that it is crucial for a country to differentiate itself, not only by focusing on the physical product, also more so on the experience and related products. Based on her studies of the Caribbean and also Asian nations, she concluded that many countries tend to copy the marketing strategies that exist in their vicinities. To many times the object is the tangible aspect of the product, namely the physical attributes.

But these are not enough to maintain a more sophisticated economy, according to Dr. Daye. It is still important to illustrate the physical aspects, yet the market nowadays requires much more. The differential competitiveness has diminished and therefore, an innovative and integral policy is instrumental to improve the tourism marketing and product, she said. And in order to do so, the private sector has an important role to play since they are an integrated part of the product and experience, as they provide the authentic flavor.

Students of the faculty also held presentations of ongoing investigations, some as long as a year. The results so far show that a national tourism brand is more than an



image or perception. It is an accumulative of physical and emotional experiences, where quality and satisfaction play an important role in creating loyalty. More over, it means realizing benefits that are natural to a strong brand. Moreover, the students presented a series of recommendation on how to improve the Aruba brand, for instance by introducing marketing strategies based on Aruban values; reaching out to new visitors by means of new technology;

integration of physical and commercial aspects of the product; improve the value for money; working toward improving quality of the environment; solve the traffic problem in Aruba; improve quality and standard of service and communication.

Only by working in an integral and innovative manner, will Aruba be able to position itself in a competitive form in this brave new world of international tourism and commerce, was their conclusion. □





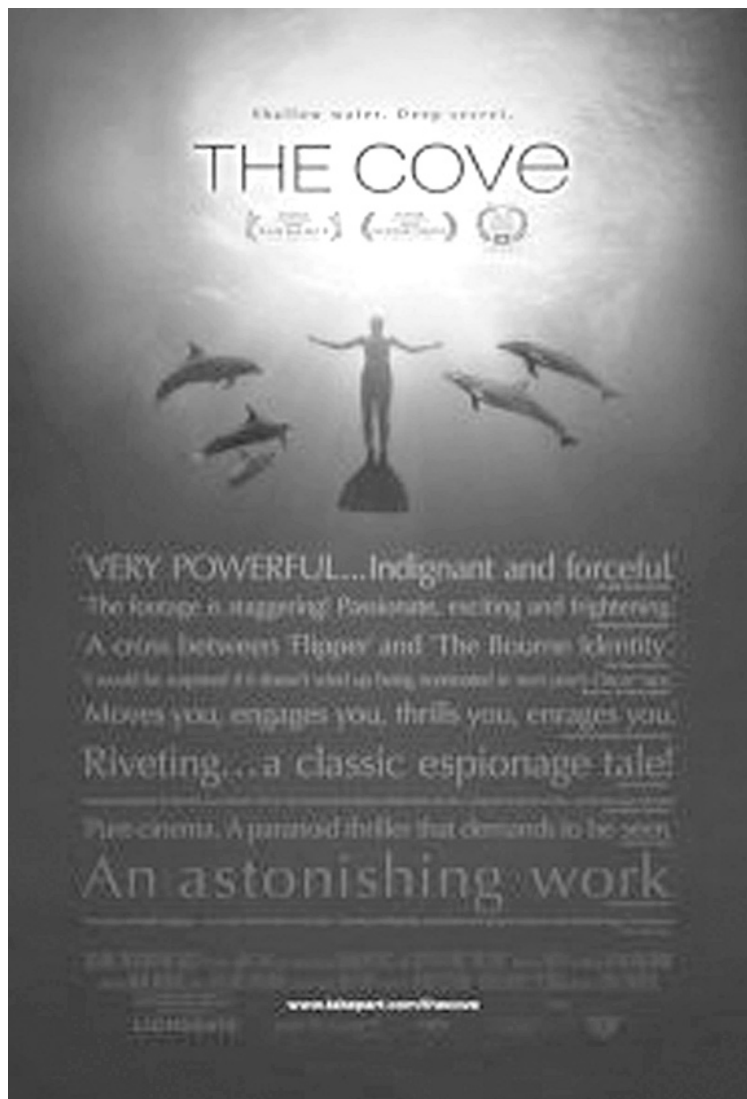
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Invitation to A Lecture On Aruba Wild Dolphins



ORANJESTAD - Hadicurari and the Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation (AMMF) cordially invite all interested fishermen, boat owners, sea and nature lovers, to an informative evening on Saturday April 24, at 7 pm, at Hadicurari. This evening is organized to introduce the scientific research by George Mason University on dolphins and whales in Aruban waters.

In addition, the lecture is organized to create an opportunity to meet all those who work at sea and have an interest in its wildlife. For AMMF, this contact is important to exchange information on our wild dolphins and whales. AMMF

also wishes to explain the protocol on human interaction with wild dolphins when they are inshore in their vulnerable zones (for example when giving birth). This protocol is important for the conservation of Aruba wild dolphins, but also for the safety of human swimmers. Swimmers are known to be approached by dolphins at Mangel Halto, Arashi, Malmok, Boca Catalina, Palm Beach, Eagle Beach, and inside the South coast reef.

During the Hadicurari-hosted informative evening, Angiolina Henriquez will present the work of AMMF during the last 12 years followed by a presentation



about an ongoing scientific research project by Jolanda Luksenburg (a PhD candidate of George Mason University, USA).

After the presentations, the movie "The Cove" will be shown. This documentary has won 46 awards, including awards at the film festivals of Rome, Toronto, Amsterdam and Sydney, and even an Oscar for Best Feature Documentary at this year's Academy Awards. The evening will end in the traditional "happy hour".

"The Cove" is based on Richard O'Barry's (the former trainer of Flipper) efforts to protect wild dolphins. In this movie he shows why he is against keeping dolphins in captivity. Richard O'Barry, a friend and colleague of Angiolina Henriquez, visited Aruba in 2007 to assist in the anti captivity campaign in Aruba to stop the dolphinarium plans.

This scientific marine mammal research project of Jolanda Luksenburg

is internationally co-sponsored by: George Mason University, The Society for Marine Mammalogy, The American Museum of Natural History, Cetacean Society International, Prins Bernhard Cultuur Fonds Nederland, Humane Society International. The protocol education -project of AMMF is co-sponsored by CEDE Aruba (Centre for Development of Aruba Foundation).

All interested parties are most welcome to attend. □



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Exclusive "A-List" package to 1st International Film Festival



PALM BEACH – In honor of the first annual Aruba International Film Festival, which takes place June 4-11, 2010, the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino is providing guests with the opportunity to experience the life of the rich and famous with the "A-List Package." Providing a complimentary night at the exclusive Tradewinds Club, plus access

to VIP events with official host Richard Gere, the package offers everything a film-buff needs to experience the first annual festival in style.

The A-List Package Includes:

- 7th night free
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- Two VIP tickets to the

official Aruba International Film Festival "Bollywood" Gala at the Aruba Marriott (June 10th)

- Exclusive access to the resort's private lounge and secluded beach area
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"With the excitement of the festival, we wanted to offer our guests the chance to take it to the next level and receive glitzy, Hollywood-style treatment in this gorgeous Caribbean setting," says Karin Swiers, Marketing and Communications Manager for the Aruba Marriott. "With VIP access to the exclusive Aruba International Film Festival events and luxurious Tradewinds accommodations and amenities, the A-List package will leave guests feeling like movie stars."

For more information on the

Aruba Film Festival, please visit www.arubafilmfest.com or follow them on Twitter @arubafilmfest.

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Scientific Study Of Aruba's Wild Dolphins



ORANJESTAD - After a long period of preparation, AMMF is pleased to announce the arrival of Jolanda Luksenburg, a PhD candidate in marine mammal conservation from George Mason University, USA. She will conduct Aruba's first scientific research on dolphins and whales.

The research starts with a baseline investigation of the biodiversity of marine mammals, with special attention for the rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bredanensis*). This will include the expansion of the identification database for dolphins and whales of AMMF. In addition, the research focuses on social patterns and vocalizations of marine mammals. All seabirds sighted will also be documented.

Jolanda Luksenburg and AMMF president Angiolina Henriquez recently met with several Aruban institutions and are very pleased to collaborate with Hadicurari (Fransisco Franken), the Aruba Coastguard, the Department of Fisheries (Ms. Patricia Portier), Coastal Zone Management (Byron Boekhoudt, Marine Biologist), the Veterinary Department (especially for use of their lab), Mr. Diego Marquez of Fundacion Parke Nacional Arikok and a small communication network of fishermen and boat owners. The current lead research vessel for this project is "Kristel" of Michael Wever and the backup vessel "Misha"



of Michael Franken.

The purpose of AMMF to bring a scientific research to the island is in order to get Aruban data in to scientific publications, especially on rough-toothed dolphins because this species is not yet well-known on a global scale. Their presence close to shore of Aruba provides researchers a unique opportunity to study them. The AMMF hopes that the launch of this internationally recognized research project will help to establish a national conservation management plan for Aruba's marine mammals and their natural habitat.

This scientific research project is internationally co-sponsored by a number of organizations, including: George Mason University, The Society for Marine Mammalogy, The American Museum of Natural History, Cetacean Society International, Prins Bernhard Cultuur Fonds Nederland, and Humane Society International. The AMMF is actively looking for sponsors to transform this project into a long-term research program.

On Saturday, April 24, 7 pm at Hadicurari, there will be an informative lecture on Aruba's marine mammals documented during the last 12 years, an explanation about the current scientific research project, and a showing of the Oscar winning documentary "The Cove". All interested parties are welcome to attend.



The Tiny Island with the Big Heart



Pa: Roland W. Peterson

"De Pelikaan" majestically
 plows through the rough
 Caribbean Sea

The ocean spray keeps a smile
 on the faces of the worried dapper
 sea men

There is a little light
 Haiti is in sight
 The young man
 with his make shift hearse
 pulling the coffin
 hangs his head in despair

On the ground sits
 an exhausted Red Cross
 volunteer nurse
 on an empty bucket
 The doctor on a brick
 So they attend the sick

It is the second time around
 for the Red Cross volunteers of this
 little island in the sun
 helping the sick on the ground

Even in the rain
 the rows of the wounded are long
 But here is where the help belongs

On this stricken Caribbean island
 there is no music in the air
 Just sighs and fears

But the people in Aruba care
 This tiny island with
 the Big Heart

HUMAN HINTS

Change Your Outlook to Change Your Life

Our lives are made up of daily details that alter our emotions. Details make up daily life, and our attitude toward them is what defines our lives. It is not what happens to us, it is our reaction to what happens to us that defines us. It is not the details, but your attitude toward them that defines your life.

Just the idea of changing your attitude usually arouses negative emotions. When we step back and analyze our attitudes, however, we can easily change them.

Release the idea that changing your attitude must be difficult or painful. We can let go effortlessly, and replace the old emotional associations with new energy that will empower and encourage us.

Your attitude is the emotion that you associate with any given situation, person or task. What do you enjoy, and what tasks don't you like? Who feels great to be around, and who drags you down? What situations empower you, and when do you feel powerless?

These are your attitudes, your emotions toward these aspects of your life. When you associate negative emotions with something, you have a bad attitude about it. Our associations are automatic emotional reactions to external stimuli. Once you observe your automatic associations in yourself, you can reprogram yourself to react differently.

Think of a bad habit you have. You know it is a bad habit, but you can't seem to kick it, because you associate it with some sort of pleasure. It relaxes you, takes your mind off things, or something else that makes you feel good. At the same time, you know its bad for you, so you also have a negative association that you can build on.

Think of a task you really don't like to do, but you have to do it. You don't like to do it because you associate it with negative emotions, but you feel that you have to do it because other people or the big picture will benefit from you efforts. Instead of thinking of the task as something you have to do, think of it as spending your time and energy helping

others and contributing to the big picture.

These are the basics of how to change your attitude in order to change your life, but there is another trick that will help tremendously. We must shock our brain out of its old patterns, then instantly place new patterns into our thoughts. With practice, the new patterns will become the default, and the old attitudes will disappear.

When you feel your bad attitudes taking over, interrupt your own thought patterns by introducing something foreign, something that does not belong in the situation. When you don't want to do something, think of a bird chirping in your head, or imagine an air horn suddenly going off. Now, instantly think of a good association with whatever you have to do, by concentrating on how it will help others and the big picture.

Changing your attitudes will make your life easier and more meaningful. Here's how. Interrupt your negative thought patterns

and replace them with positive associations.

Until Tomorrow...


Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger


Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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PG-13	CLASH OF THE TITANS			
	daily:	6:00	8:30	
	matinee:	1:00	3:30	late show: 11:15
				
PG-13	THE BOUNTY HUNTER			
	daily:	4:00	6:30	9:00
	matinee:	1:30	late show:	11:45
PG-13	WHY DID I GET MARRIED TOO			
	daily:	4:00	6:45	9:15
	matinee:	1:30	late show:	11:45
PG	ALICE IN WONDERLAND			
	daily:	5:30	8:15	
	matinee:	12:30	3:00	late show: 11:00
				

AT PASEO HERENCIA				
R	REPO MEN			
	daily:	6:00	8:30	
	matinee:	12:45	3:30	late show: 11:15
R	COP OUT			
	daily:	6:15	9:00	
	matinee:	1:00	3:45	late show: 11:30
PG	HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON			
	daily:	4:15	6:30	8:45
	matinee:	1:45	late show:	11:00
				
PG-13	OUR FAMILY WEDDING			
	daily:	5:30	7:45	9:45
	matinee:	12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00
PG	DIARY OF A WIMPY KID			
	daily:			
	matinee:	12:30	2:45	late show:
R	GREEN ZONE			
	daily:	4:00	6:30	9:15
	matinee:	1:30	late show:	12:00
PG-13	DATE NIGHT			
	daily:	5:00	7:30	9:30
	matinee:		late show:	11:45

Matinee: sat - sun | Late show: fri & sat





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On the eve of the restaurant's 10th anniversary

Amazonia Churrascaria introduces a new dining option

Palm Beach – The crew at Amazonia Churrascaria is gearing up for the restaurant's 10th anniversary. Almost one decade ago, the authentic Brazilian concept of Rodizio Steakhouse offering continuous dining caught literal fire as a troop of waiters armed with mega skewers started roaming the colorful and friendly new indoor & outdoor dining room of Amazonia Churrascaria, introducing a fresh and novel style of dining to enthusiastic locals and visitors.

Having enjoyed instant success, Amazonia Churrascaria became a household name, a favorite place for family gatherings, celebrations or just great food. "Now, after ten years," says Hubert Solagnier, restaurant manager, "it is time for a new product, an a la carte option, designed to satisfy small eaters, and patrons with distinct menu favorites."

Diners may now opt for the traditional, continuous parade of gauchos, slicing more than 14 cuts of grilled beef, chicken, lamb, pork & sausage, or a new a la carte dinner option, where their favorite skewer – from Grilled Pineapple, to Parmesan Pork, Filet Mignon Wrapped in Bacon, Lamb Chop, or the Mixed Amazonia Skewer with

tenderloin and vegetables, and the Passion Skewer with six jumbo shrimp -- is delivered to the table, seasoned to perfection and slow roasted over open flame, in the restaurant's signature style.

Both dining styles are accompanied by an extravagant forty-item, frequently changing seasonal salad bar where patrons can keep sampling until they beg for mercy, and a delicious array of tasty sides. With two choices, an all-inclusive feast and an a la

carte delight, diners can now better tailor the Amazonia Churrascaria culinary adventure, to their liking, combined with the restaurant's extensive award-winning Wine Spectator wine list, well stocked bar and terrific selection of Cuban cigars.



"Bring this ad with you and receive 10% DISCOUNT on traditional dinner; not applicable for a la carte dining. Beverages and dessert not included."



Adam Steinfeld live tonight!

Don't miss Magic & Comedy tonight at the Westin



STEINFELD: 'MAGIC LIVE!' Theater-of-illusions show... now at the WESTIN - Aruba, see it live! 9pm nightly NightMagic-Comedy- Master of illusions. PREPARE to Witness TOP-Class Illusions, Magic & Comedy on Stage. Adam Steinfeld's Magic Live!® show, at the WESTIN - Aruba... 'Sensational!', 'Amazingly Funny!'...the Hottest ticket in Town! A Must See" 'BEST MAGIC SHOW, I've seen in ages...and I hate Magic! - Carol Butz, Belair, Maryland.

'MagicLive!...is Hip-Comedy Entertainment, Adam is the ultimate Modern Magician' - Jacque Polak, CBS-TV. Steinfeld sophisticated card-sharp street magic, mixed with grand theater illusions is a visual feast...this will be the highlight of your vacation. -Al Blanchard, mystery novelist, Boston, MA.

Steinfeld's, comedy magician, likable on-stage personality, comic interactive-wit, and amazing magic, mixed with his dream-like theatre-of-

illusions, is a sensory overload of the imagination, along with his lovely dancers...a treat for the entire family.

SEE IT LIVE! On-Stage!

"It's obvious Adam's real passion is performing in front of a live audience, as his charisma and charm create an unforgettable show!" Steinfeld is a 'Master of Magic', he invents many of his own Las Vegas illusions that are designed in England, fabricated in Vegas, and travels with him on tour, in a explosion of amazing fun.

THE MUST-SEE SHOW - YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT! AROUND THE WORLD AND BACK, Adam Steinfeld: 'MAGIC LIVE!', from Monte Carlo, Hong Kong, Orlando, Miami Beach, Biloxi, Boston, San Juan, New York, Aruba to Vegas, it's the coolest show in town, taking up where Houdini left off." **MAGIC-GRANDILLUSION - COMEDY**



IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show
Where: Westin - Aruba, palm beach (high-rise area)
Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld
ShowTime: 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm
Tickets: at the door, MagicLive box office (hotel lobby), or Westin-aruba concierges desk
Box office opens at 7:30pm nightly
Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.95 adults
Group Sales: 561-1090
ALL AGES APPROPRIATE

Hyatt Regency Curacao Golf Resort, Spa and Marina Opens

Curacao's newest luxury resort embodies the spirit of this captivating island destination and brings authentic hospitality and cultural flavor to guests



WILLEMSTAD, Curacao -- Hyatt Regency Curacao Golf Resort, Spa and Marina bid bon bini ("welcomes" in Papiamentu) its first guests on Tuesday, and introduces a new level of luxury and service to the Dutch-influenced Caribbean island. As the focal point of the 1,500-acre Santa Barbara Plantation resort community, the 350-room beachfront resort features Old Quarry by Pete Dye, the island's only 18-hole championship resort golf course; Atabei Spa, an eco-friendly holistic retreat inspired by the island's ancient

traditions and rituals; and a full-service, six-slip marina.

The resort was designed to immerse guests in Curacao's rich culture and heritage through a variety of activities highlighting the island's distinctive local flavor. From Camp Arawak, where children age 12 and under have the chance to explore the natural surroundings during cave hikes and iguana feedings, to the Lama Salt Bar which allows spa goers to create customized body scrubs from a selection of indigenous sea

salts, herbs and aromatic oils, to an extensive farm-to-table dining program, guests will walk away with a true taste and feel for Curacao.

"Curacao is a vibrant and captivating destination, and we are thrilled to bring Hyatt's authentic brand of hospitality and extraordinary service to the island," said Diego Concha, general manager. "We've worked diligently to capture Curacao's colorful culture and undeniable charm throughout the resort, and we look forward to sharing this with our guests."

The resort's other amenities include three outdoor pools with ocean views, palm lined sundeck, StayFit@Hyatt fitness center, jogging trail, tennis and volleyball courts, and more than 38,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and banquet space. There are three globally inspired dining options, including MEDI, specializing in Mediterranean cuisine with an exhibition kitchen; SWIM,

a poolside restaurant offering Pan Latino-influenced dishes; and SHOR, a specialty seafood restaurant.

All 350 guestrooms, ranging from doubles, kings and junior suites to VIP, executive and presidential suites, feature natural sandstone flooring, Hyatt Grand Beds, flat screen plasma televisions, deluxe bath amenities and scenic views of either Spanish Water Bay or the Caribbean Sea. Three beach bungalows in a private enclave are also available.

Located in the southwestern Caribbean, Curacao offers an eclectic mix of history and culture. With a Dutch influence and European flair, the island is known for its sophistication, eco-tourism and pristine diving conditions. In addition to offering sun, sand, sea and diving, Curacao also provides many cultural, historical and ecological points of interest that appeal to the discerning traveler.

About Hyatt Regency Curacao

Golf Resort, Spa and Marina Located at Santa Barbara Plantation, the 350-room Hyatt Regency Curacao Golf Resort, Spa and Marina is part of a 1,500-acre luxury resort community taking shape along a natural harbor known as Spanish Water, 25 minutes from Curacao's capital city of Willemstad.

The luxury resort features uninterrupted water views on three sides, white sand beaches, full-service Atabei Spa, a separate 24-hour StayFit@Hyatt fitness center, Camp Arawak, three outdoor pools, poolside grill, lounge, dive and water sport facility, Old Quarry -- an 18-hole Pete Dye designed championship golf course, and 38,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space. For the latest news from Hyatt Regency Curacao Golf Resort, Spa and Marina, become a fan on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hyattcuracao or follow the resort on Twitter @hyattcuracao. □

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Celebrate tonight with Live Music & Entertainment at Casa Tua Barcelona



ORANJESTAD - Casa Tua Barcelona's Flamenco Show is the spot to be tonight with Angela Croes TONIGHT and then again on Friday. On Thursday enjoy the amazing sounds Kavey Yarzagaray.

Enjoy your Paella and Sangria together with these fantastic live shows! The downtown atmosphere is cool and relaxed with its in- and outside seating.

The highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona is also the new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! A \$9.95 lunch special; Beef tenderloin



with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad.

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata Negra which we import directly from Andalucía. As your main course you could choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

The best part about such a good ending is that it guarantees you'll be back for more...



Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown open from 11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to 11pm tel. 588 5695. Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm, tel 586 8470



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Westin hosts Youth Art Exhibit 2010



PALM BEACH - This past Saturday, some of the island's talented budding artists had the chance to display their works during the Youth Art Exhibit 2010.

The event took place in the Westin's Starwood Art Gallery, where some 61 works of art were displayed. The exhibit showcases

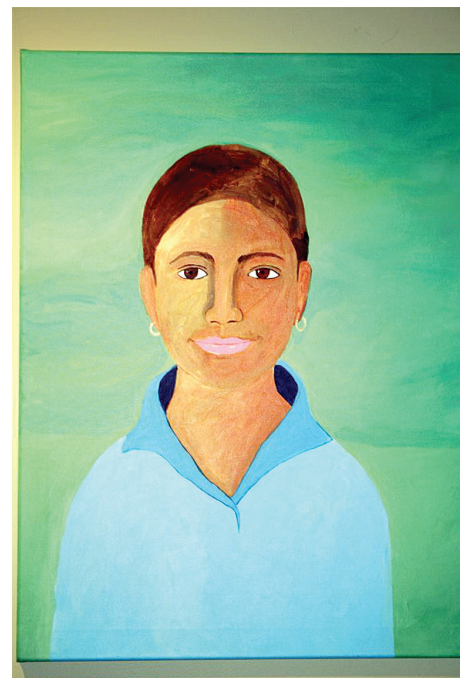
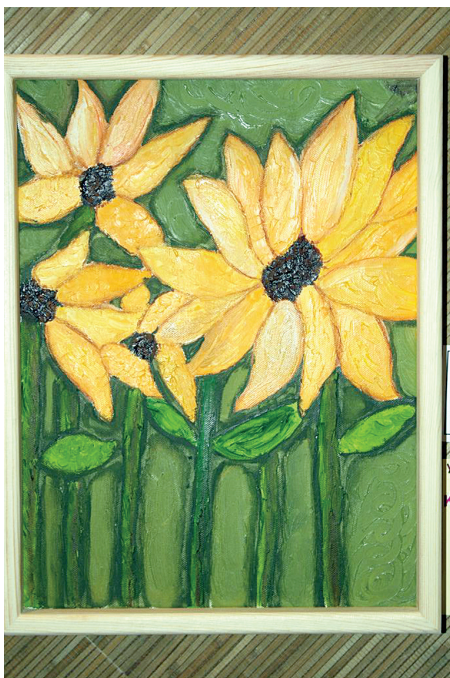
the artwork of 31 students created under the guidance of their art instructor, Miriam de l'Isle. Featured were "self portraits," "portraits of my family and



friends," and "portraits inspired by Picasso." This was the 5th annual exhibit organized by Miriam, and works will be on display in the Starwood Gallery at the Westin through May 11th. On May 8th, an art auction will be held, with proceeds going towards the purchase of a dozen art easels and supplies for the children.



Saturday's opening was a huge success, with the largest turnout to date for an art opening at the gallery.



By: Dr. Carlos Viana

Fecundity or being able to have children has always been an issue. Virtually all cultures have had a means of venerating the Supreme Being as a Divine Female that could be asked to help with fertility problems. Whether you already have child and would like more children or hope to have a family in the future, the physical and psychological health of both partners as well as lifestyle can greatly affect your chances of getting pregnant and having a healthy baby.

Unfortunately, the U.S. National Survey of Family Growth reported that impaired fecundity rose significantly between 1982 and 1995, the biggest increase in women under 25. Similar findings from Europe show that 40 percent of men entering the draft in Denmark have low sperm count levels associated with infertility.

If you're under 35 and have been trying to get pregnant for less than a year (or fewer than six months if you're over 35), you have no reason to be concerned yet. To make sure you're doing all you can to enhance your chances of getting pregnant come in for a consultation. If you've had frequent unprotected sex for more than a year (six months if you're over 35) without conceiving, you or your partner may have a condition that's interfering with your chances of conceiving. A doctor can diagnose a fertility problem.

Researchers estimate that as many as one in ten couples have trouble getting pregnant and this is expected to rise. If you're having

Fertility, Naturally

trouble, that doesn't mean you'll never have children. Many couples need extra time or medical intervention to get pregnant. We have found many of our fecundity (fertility/pregnancy) patients have a health imbalance, emotional stress or simply need sexual education. Our couples have had success using a combination of detoxification, clinical nutrition, couples counseling and Traditional Chinese Medical (TCM) therapies that we offer in our clinic. We have found that by supporting and balancing both partners, we can enhance the positive outcomes.

Women tend to have fertility problems when they have a history of: endometriosis, uterine fibroids, pelvic inflammatory disease, blocked Fallopian tubes from a previous infection or surgery, or chronic illness such as diabetes, cancer, or thyroid disease. Sexually transmitted disease (STD's) can adversely affect chances of getting pregnant. Women who have painful or irregular periods or excessive facial and body hair have hormonal imbalances impacting fecundity. Finally, women can have pain during intercourse or be allergic to their partner's sperm.

Men can have problems if they have a history of: infection with the mumps virus after puberty, diabetes, cancer, thyroid disease, undescended testicles, testicular tumors, cysts or cancer, or varicoceles (varicose veins in the scrotum.) Heat kills sperm, so tight underwear, hot tub, saunas, and

frequent long-distance bike rides can greatly reduce your sperm count.

In both we want to make sure that neither smokes tobacco nor marijuana nor uses alcohol to excess. Studies show that under or overweight couples have a harder time getting pregnant and having a healthy pregnancy.

Reports show that men working with pesticides have higher rates of infertility. Women, whose mother's were exposed to the pesticide, DDT needed increased time to get pregnant. Another fertility and health concern is a chemical used plastics and the lining of cans, bisphenol A (BPA). The latest studies show that men who carry cell phones in pants pocket or clipped to their belts may be exposing their testicles to damaging radiofrequency electromagnetic waves according to Ashok Agarwal, PhD, director of the Center for Reproductive Medicine at the Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute in Cleveland.

Since chemicals, pesticides and cell phones are part of modern life, precautionary methods like using protection and minimizing use and exposure may help. Choose glass over plastic, use natural house cleaners, organic body products and non-toxic garden products.

Besides, lifestyle changes, to increase chance of pregnancy, the woman can keep track of her basal body temperature daily and check for changes in cervical mucus to determine her ovulation cycle. New, accurate home fertility

scopes are available that can eliminate urine testing and daily charting. A small, easy, reusable microscope, available in pharmacies and through gynecologists can accurately show your ovulation (fertility) cycle with a drop of saliva. When you know your fertile days, planning is easier.

I recommend the man-on-top position which allows for the deepest penetration and places sperm closer to egg. When a woman has an orgasm the mouth of the womb extends to the vaginal floor and picks up the sperm. I recommend woman have an orgasm after their partner. Lastly, stress can affect appetite, emotions, and the hormones required to release the eggs. If you're stressed out, you may ovulate later or not at all. As many couples trying to get pregnant know, feeling anxious and overwhelmed can kill your sex drive.

In early pregnancy a woman's body produces an elevated level of hCG (human chorionic gonadotropin). About 14 days after fertilization (the time you would expect your period) the amount of HCG has increased so that, some home pregnancy tests may be able to detect the hormone in your urine and give you a positive result. Most home pregnancy tests are not sensitive enough to guarantee you an accurate result in a couple of days of conceiving.

You're more likely to get an accurate result if you wait until a week after your expected period before testing.

Get the Point! If you really want to increase your chances of getting pregnant and having a healthy baby, before



you try artificial methods, come in for a natural fecundity workup. Being healthy before pregnancy, gives your baby a healthy start. We're here to answer your questions. Meanwhile a small offering to a fecundity deity won't hurt.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270 FAX: 585-4789, Web Sight: www.vianaheal.com

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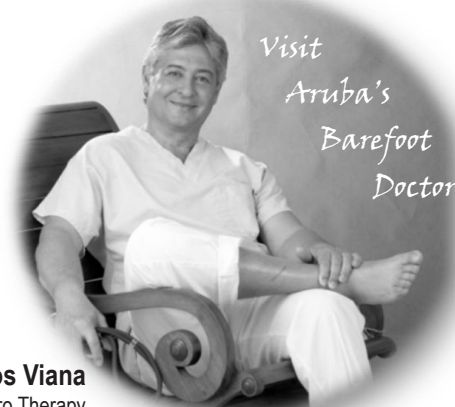
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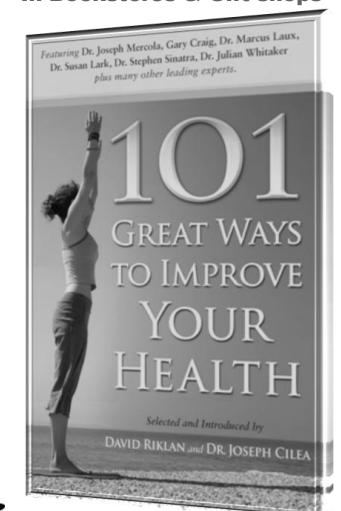
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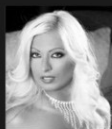
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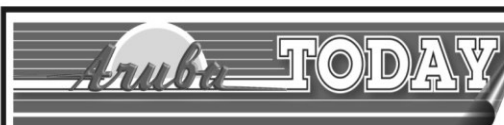
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Democrats Hate That Tea Parties Are Peaceful

Mona Charen

Creators Syndicate — Former President Clinton reminds us, on the 15th anniversary of the bombing in Oklahoma City, to police our discourse so as not to incite the “delirious” and “unhinged.” Timothy McVeigh, he notes, “took to the ultimate extreme an idea advocated ... by an increasingly vocal minority: the belief that the greatest threat to American freedom is our government ... “

This is only the latest and most high profile installment of a long-running campaign by Democrats to malign their opposition. It worked very well for Mr. Clinton in 1995 — the baseless insinuation that right-wing radio hosts had ignited murderous rage with their intemperate rhetoric — and he’s reaching into that seedy toolbox again.

By citing “the belief that the greatest threat to American freedom is our government” as the chief motive of murderous terrorists, the former president implies that resistance to government overreach and encroachment is illegitimate; the province of extremists.

There are two problems with this. First, it is perfectly true that government can be a threat to liberty. This is so obvious that it hardly bears rebutting. Two examples: Alien and Sedition Acts, internment of Japanese Americans. No one understood government’s capacity to constrain freedom better than the Founders, who designed a system so diffuse and balanced that power would be difficult (though not impossible) to abuse.

The second problem with Mr. Clinton’s intimation is that his pious concern about a “vocal minority” protesting government threats to freedom was nowhere in evidence during the Bush administration, when many liberal commentators were caterwauling that President Bush was “shredding” the Constitution. A “vocal minority” certainly believed that the government was the greatest threat to American liberty (they thought Bush a far greater threat than Islamic extremism) — but their saying so didn’t trouble Mr. Clinton.

Nor was Clinton moved to speak out when anti-Bush protestors labeled him the world’s “worst terrorist” and carried posters of the president wearing a Hitler moustache.

You can delegitimize all political speech you dislike by suggesting that it may inflame the violence-prone. The press attempts this again and again. Rather than openly debate, they smear. The 1994 election, which unseated the Democratic majority, was described by the press, without any evidence, as the eruption of “angry, white,

male” voters. One fan out of 8,000 at a McCain/Palin rally was reported to have shouted “Kill him” in reference to Obama. Rafts of stories dwelt upon this revelation of the “ugly” side of Palinmania. A later investigation found no evidence that it had even happened. And of course the tea party movement, a spontaneous, widespread upwelling of grassroots dismay at the direction of government policy, has been falsely and savagely maligned as racist, violent and primitive. (The best poster spotted at a tea party rally: “It doesn’t matter what I put on my sign because you will accuse me of racism anyway.”)

Actually, Democrats are reduced to warning that certain attitudes can lead to violence because there hasn’t been any actual violence at the tea party rallies. All have been remarkably orderly and even friendly. You can almost feel the Democrats’ frustration at this. By contrast, many, many left-wing protests and demonstrations have sparked violence. Just last year, at the G-20 meeting in Pittsburgh, rampaging protestors broke shop windows and scuffled with police, who used batons and tear gas to subdue them. A 1999 meeting of the World Trade Organization in Seattle was so badly disrupted by anti-globalization fanatics, who smashed windows and shut down the center of the city, that the governor had to declare a state of emergency and call out the National Guard. (President Clinton failed to assail those who criticize corporations as inspiring the violence.)

In 2007, several hundred protesters who descended on Washington, D.C., during the International Monetary Fund meeting turned over trash cans, smashed windows, threw bricks, and pushed a police officer off her motorcycle. In 2008, as John Hinderaker of Powerlineblog recalls, anti-Republican protesters at the convention in St. Paul: “threw bricks through the windows of buses, sending elderly convention delegates to the hospital. They dropped bags of sand off highway overpasses onto vehicles below.” The violence was only fleetingly covered in the press and went unmentioned by leading Democrats.

Republicans have been very quick to condemn violent acts or even intemperate words by right-wing individuals or groups. They’ve even condemned some that didn’t happen — like false account of racial slurs shouted at members of the Congressional Black Caucus. While it’s important to police one’s ranks, it’s also necessary to expose the Democrats’ persistent and malignant libels. □

GOP Loaded With Self-Funding Candidates

Kyle Trygstad

Some of the top Republican House candidates in the country have self-funded large portions of their campaign coffers, a plus for a party aiming to win back Congress this year.

One-third of the 39 candidates that have reached the second tier of the National Republican Congressional Committee’s three-step campaign organization program have given or loaned their campaigns significant amounts of money, recent Federal Election Commission filings show.

If Democrats hold on to their three remaining vacant seats in special elections this year, the GOP will need to pick up 40 seats to win back the House. Even with the national political landscape favoring them, GOP challengers need cash to keep up with incumbents that have been raising money for more than a year.

The NRCC had just \$6 million in the bank at the end of February, so candidates able to raise vast amounts of money -- including from their own personal bank accounts -- are attractive. The committee’s Democratic counterpart has more than three times as much on hand.

The candidate who’s loaned his campaign the most so far is Tom Ganley, who’s challenging second-term Rep. Betty Sutton in Ohio’s 13th District. Despite raising just \$16,000, Ganley has shelled out \$2 million of his own money and has nearly 10 times as much cash on hand as the incumbent.

Another top self-funder is Randy Altschuler, who’s loaned his campaign more than half of the \$2 million he’s brought in. He’s running against fourth-term Rep. Tim Bishop in New York’s 1st District on Long Island.

The other 11 Republicans who’ve reached the NRCC’s “Contender” status and are partially self-funding their campaigns include (candidate, district, amount loaned and/or contributed to campaign):

- Scott Rigell, VA-2, \$599,000
- Bill Flores, TX-17, \$493,000
- Nan Hayworth, NY-19, \$400,000
- Brian Rooney, MI-7, \$240,000
- David McKinley, WV-1, \$200,000
- Tom Reed, NY-29, \$135,000
- Jim Renacci, OH-16, \$122,000
- Frank Guinta, NH-1, \$120,000
- Rick Berg, ND-AL, \$110,000
- Keith Fimian, VA-11, \$105,000
- Larry Bucshon, IN-8, \$65,000

None of the 10 Republican challengers who’ve reached the top “Young Gun” status have given more than \$25,000 to their campaigns. But all have raised enough to be on solid financial ground anyway. □

Rechiflan a ONU en inauguración de cumbre climática en Bolivia

TIQUIPAYA, Bolivia (Reuters) - Dramáticos llamados a luchar por la supervivencia del planeta se confundieron el martes con un sonoro rechazo al papel de Naciones Unidas frente al cambio climático en la inauguración oficial de una conferencia mundial ambientalista en Bolivia. La rechifla de miles de delegados de los cinco continentes a un mensaje de Naciones Unidas pareció confirmar previsiones de un fuerte tono izquierdista en la Conferencia Mundial de los Pueblos sobre el Cambio Climático y los Derechos de la Madre Tierra, convocada por el presidente boliviano, Evo Morales.

A tono con el mandatario, activistas anti capitalistas expresaron en el acto inaugural duras críticas a líderes mundiales por no haber logrado en una cumbre en Copenhague compromisos



Un empleado cuelga un banderín alusivo a la Conferencia Mundial de los Pueblos sobre el Cambio Climático y los Derechos de la Madre Tierra en Cochabamba, Bolivia, abr 19 2010. REUTERS/Danilo Balderrama

suficientes para frenar el calentamiento global. El tono crítico alcanzó su apogeo cuando Alicia Bárcena, secretaria ejecutiva de la Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL), fue obligada por la silbatina y gritos de los asistentes a dejar de leer un mensaje del secretario general de Naciones Unidas, Ban Ki-Moon. “El cambio climático es un dilema ético y político que tiene serias repercusiones en el bienestar de nuestra generación (...), es muy importante que se dé una solución global, es necesario que se tome en cuenta las opiniones de todos”, alcanzó a leer Bárcena, tratando de mantener la compostura. Luego pidió “respeto y diálogo”, afirmando que la unidad que reclaman los pueblos puede ser alcanzada a través de la ONU y no rechazando al organismo mundial. □

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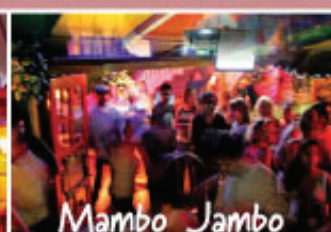
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INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

BURQA BAN



French President Nicolas Sarkozy delivers a speech after the weekly cabinet meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris Wednesday March 24, 2010. Sarkozy called for a ban on full-face Islamic veils, said he would be ready to clash with France's EU partners to defend agriculture subsidies, and would press on with pension reforms despite social tensions.

Read more on Page A8

SPORTS NEWS

QB SACKED



Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) pass by coach Mike Tomlin, left rear, during the NFL team's practice in Pittsburgh Monday, April 19, 2010.

Read more on Page A12

Price of a barrel of petroleum

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President Barack Obama and bipartisan Senate leaders discuss the Supreme Court vacancy left by the retirement of Justice Stevens in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Associated Press

Obama: Supreme Court pick must back women's rights

BEN FELLER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama, dealing carefully with the explosive issue of abortion, said Wednesday that he will choose a Supreme Court nominee who pays heed to women's rights and personal privacy when interpreting the Constitution.

"That's very important to me," Obama said. Yet he insisted he will not make any potential nominee pass a "litmus test" on a woman's right to end a pregnancy.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1973 that laws restricting that right violated women's privacy. The courts have battled with the ramifications since then, although the core ruling has gone untouched. Still, open access to abortion remains a highly volatile subject in U.S. politics.

Continued on Page 4

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Oil rig explodes off La. coast; 11 missing



In this Wednesday April 21, 2010 photo released by the U.S. Coast Guard, a fire aboard the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon burns 52-miles southeast of Venice, La. Helicopters, ships and an airplane searched waters off Louisiana's coast Wednesday for missing workers after an explosion and fire that left an offshore drilling platform tilting in the Gulf of Mexico.

Associated Press

KEVIN MCGILL

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — An explosion rocked an offshore oil drilling platform, sending a column of fire into the sky and touching off a frantic search at sea Wednesday for at least 11 reported missing.

Continued on Page 5

Runaway luxury train derails in S.Africa, 2 dead

NKEMELENG NKOSI

Associated Press Writer

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — A luxury train filled with foreign tourists, many of them Americans, sped downhill out of control before derailling in South Africa Wednesday, killing a pregnant woman and another crew member and trapping passengers in the mangled coaches.

Rail officials advised passengers and crew to jump from the train as it sped into Pretoria, South Africa's capital, after their attempts to apply brakes did not work.

"I screamed at the others to tell them to jump off," said Rovos Rail Managing Director Rohan Vos. "I jumped off while it was moving."

Continued on Page 9

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Intel chief: Small terror groups a major challenge



Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair, center, is joined by directors of the government's various intelligence agencies as the Office of the Director of National Intelligence marks its fifth birthday during a ceremony at ODNI headquarters in McLean, Va., Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Small and disparate groups of terrorists and individuals radicalized by militants over the Internet will be major challenges for the U.S. intelligence community in coming years, the nation's

top intelligence official said Wednesday. National Intelligence Director Dennis Blair said he is confident U.S. spy agencies can detect and prevent a repetition of the Sept. 11, 2001, attack. But stopping smaller, more piecemeal attacks will be harder, he said.

"We've got to raise our game," Blair told reporters at the DNI headquarters in northern Virginia. Radicalization is becoming a bigger problem, he said, including efforts aimed at Americans attracted to extremist ideologies through the Internet. The U.S. intelligence system

Associated Press

and other government agencies are still contending with criticism in the aftermath of an attempt to blow up an airliner near Detroit, Michigan, on Dec. 25. The incident is seen as a strong indicator of the kind of small, quickly designed plots that could pose trouble in the future. Intelligence agencies also are dealing with the fallout from the devastating suicide bombing inside a CIA base in Afghanistan that killed seven agency employees last December.

Counterterror officials say that as al-Qaida's Pakistan-based core struggles to get financing and recruits, smaller offshoots in places like Somalia and Yemen are gaining support and followers. Those franchises are more likely to plot and wage smaller, less sophisticated attacks that are harder to detect and prevent. Asked about federal agencies' ability to monitor or target Americans suspected in

national security matters, Blair said that "on the domestic side, we have a lot more responsibility" to follow the law and careful procedures when Americans are involved.

But, he added, "we've got to go across that divide just as our enemies do. National intelligence includes what goes on in this country as well as what goes on overseas that threatens the United States." U.S. officials created the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks to coordinate the nation's intelligence agencies better. Blair spoke to reporters after a short ceremony marking the office's fifth anniversary. The heads of all 16 intelligence agencies, including those from the CIA, FBI, the Pentagon and the Homeland Security Department, gathered for the event after their regularly scheduled meeting on national intelligence matters. □



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AP-GfK Poll: Americans shifting to U.S. cars

DAN SEWELL

AP Business Writer

CINCINNATI (AP) — Buy American? That's suddenly a good idea again to more car buyers.

Toyota's safety problems and a buffed-up lineup of offerings from Detroit's Big 3 are rubbing the tarnish off car buyers' perceptions of U.S. models. An Associated Press-GfK Poll shows that 38 percent favor U.S. vehicles while 33 percent prefer Asian brands, a significant improvement for U.S. automakers compared to four years ago.

"Really, the American car industry has opened its eyes," said Jose Nunez, 24, a customer at Planet Dodge Chrysler Jeep in Miami on Wednesday. "And it's really giving the people what they want, what they need. I think after all we've been through, definitely the three big companies are responding to it."

The findings provide fuel for U.S. automakers who are getting sales and swagger back after a bleak period of huge financial losses, job cuts and market share declines. General Motors Co. and Chrysler LLC needed government help just to survive.

Watching an iconic American industry beaten down amid the Great Recession may be one reason Americans are giving U.S. automakers a closer look.

"I think Americans are beginning to realize the significance of the America's auto industry to its history and to its future, and we're a bit more sensitive now to what will be its fate," John Heitmann, an auto historian at the University of Dayton.

Veronica Sullivan, 41, typified that approach as she finalized the paperwork at a New York dealership on her new Ford Focus.

"Keep the wages in the American hand, supplying jobs for Americans. Why not keep the cash flow where we are and benefit for ourselves?" Sullivan said. "And I think also that Ford, for myself, builds a really good car."

The poll results are encouraging to Tom Gill, who owns a Chevrolet dealership in Kentucky — in the heart of the so-called "Auto Alley" region loaded with auto-related businesses and plants. The veteran dealer often uses the American flag and patriotic pitches in his advertising.

"With all that said, the General Motors product line, the Ford product line, have just really been producing hit after hit," said Gill, citing the Chevrolet Malibu and Camaro as current hot sellers. He says his sales are up 30 percent so far this year.

General Motors CEO Ed Whitacre noted the optimism Wednesday at a factory in Kansas City, where he announced that GM was paying \$8.1 billion in U.S. and Canadian government loans early. He also announced that GM will pump \$257 million into expanded production at the Kansas plant and another in Michigan.

Whitacre said the company is "designing, building and selling the best cars and trucks General Motors has produced ever."

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted in March, as Toyota reeled from the recall of more than 8 million vehicles around the globe and allegations that it responded sluggishly to safety concerns.

In a December 2006 AP-AOL poll, 46 percent said Asian countries made superior cars, while just 29 percent said American automakers did.

In both AP polls, Japan — home to brands including Toyota, Honda and Nissan — was by far the dominant Asian nation volunteered as producing the best cars. European vehicles were viewed about the same in both polls; 15 percent of respondents last month, and 17 percent of those in 2006, called them top quality.

The safety controversy is hurting Toyota's U.S. market share, which dropped from 16.3 percent in the first quarter of 2009 to 15.2 percent for the same period this year, according to industry sales tracking firm Autodata Corp.

Market share for the Detroit Three combined rose from 43.8 percent in the first quarter of 2009 to 44.7 percent this year, while Asian automakers saw a drop from 47.9 percent to 46.8.

Asian automakers topped the Big 3 in combined market share for the first time last year. U.S. automakers had a combined U.S. market share of 57 percent as recently as 2005, but when high gas prices deflated the truck and SUV markets they dominated, they were battered by the long-simmering notion that the Japanese made better cars. While the U.S. automakers have revamped their lineups, including with more fuel-efficient vehicles and crossover and hybrid innovations, analysts say Ford Motor Co. got an extra boost by not accepting a taxpayer bailout or going into bankruptcy as GM and Chrysler did.

Ford's U.S. sales jumped 37 percent in the first three months of this year, and its market share saw its biggest increase since 1977. Its reliability ratings, as judged by Consumer Reports, are now on par with the leading Asian makers, though GM has also improved.

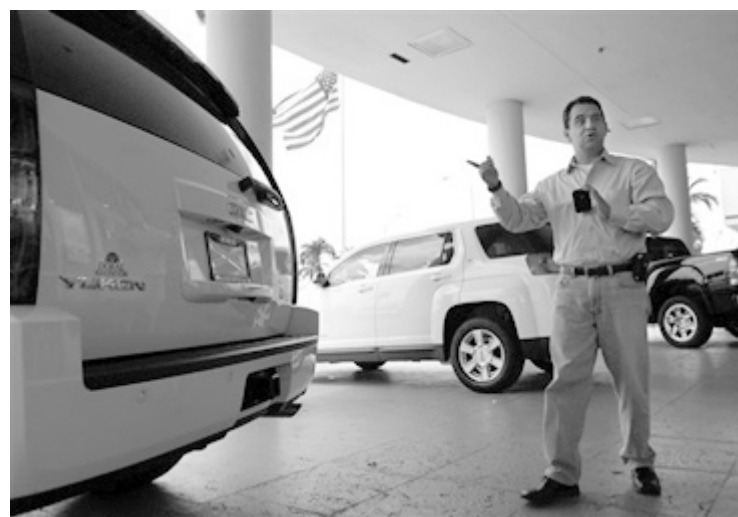
Some car buyers continue to have a dim view of the other U.S. automakers — one of which is arguably not even American anymore. Chrysler is now run by Italy's Fiat Group SpA.

"The reason I don't want any of my kids driving anything but a Ford is because GM and Chrysler had to get bailed out," said Brian Sorell of Kansas.

Martin Zimmerman, a former Ford executive and now a professor at the University of Michigan Ross School of Business, cautioned that Detroit still has to deliver.

"I've always felt that people will feel good buying an American product, but that product has to be quality-competitive and cost-competitive for them to buy it," he said.

Toyota and Honda officials often point out that they are major players in the U.S.



Fabricio Andrade of Naples, Fla., looks at a GMC Yukon Hybrid car at the Doral Buick GMC car dealership in Doral, Fla. Wednesday, April 21, 2010 Andrade wants to purchase the Yukon and trade in his Lexus as he needs a larger vehicle.

economy as employers at major plants on U.S. soil. Honda has been making cars in Ohio for more than 30 years. "I think most automakers have raised their games in past years, offering Americans an array of solid product offerings," said Curt McAllister, a Toyota spokesman.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted March 3-8 by GfK Roper Public Affairs and Media. It involved interviews with 1,002 adults conducted by landline and cellular telephones. The margin of sampling error was plus or minus 4.2 percentage points.

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Hoyer, Pelosi aides questioned in ethics case



This Tuesday Oct. 14, 2008 file photo shows Eric Massa, Democratic candidate for New York's 29th Congressional District in Rochester, N.Y. Massa said Saturday he didn't authorize a \$40,000 check his campaign wrote to his chief of staff shortly before the New York lawmaker resigned last month under a sexual harassment cloud.

Associated Press

By LARRY MARGASAK

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON

— Congressional investigators have questioned House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer and aides to Speaker Nancy Pelosi as part of a probe into whether top Democrats covered up information that ex-Rep. Eric Massa sexually harassed male employees.

The FBI has also been drawn into the Massa case, apparently by reports last weekend

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Continued from Front Page

Traditionally, Obama's Democrats have more favorable positions toward abortion than the opposition Republicans.

"I think part of what our constitutional values promote is the notion that individuals have protection in their privacy, and their bodily integrity, and women are not exempt from that," Obama said.

His comments on women's rights came as he consulted senators and forged ahead in choosing his next nominee for the high court. He is considering about 10 people as candidates to succeed Justice John Paul Stevens, who is retiring.

The president's decision is expected within the next few weeks. Stevens is considered a staunch supporter of abortion

about a \$40,000 check from the former congressman's campaign fund to his former chief of staff, who has filed a sexual harassment complaint against Massa, said an attorney involved in the case.

The House Ethics Committee formally opened its investigation on Wednesday. A four-member panel of the evenly divided committee questioned Hoyer, the Maryland Democrat's office said. In February, Hoyer's staff learned of the allegations against Massa, and Hoyer demanded that Massa's aides take them to the ethics panel. Five months earlier, Massa's chief of staff met with an aide to Pelosi to complain about the conduct of Massa, D-N.Y. Pelosi aides have insisted that those discussions did not include the sexual harassment allegations.

"The speaker has made herself available to meet with ethics committee at their earliest convenience," said Nadeam Elshami, a spokesman for Pelosi. Elshami said members of Pelosi's staff have already met with and fully cooperated with the committee.

Massa, 50, resigned from the House last month after the sexual harassment allegations surfaced. The ethics committee cannot investigate former members, but it can look into

rights.

Noting that the abortion debate has long divided the country, Obama underscored his belief in a right to privacy while attempting not to box himself in.

When asked whether he could nominate someone who did not support the woman's right to choose abortion, Obama said: "I am somebody who believes that women should have the ability to make often very difficult decisions about their own bodies and issues of reproduction."

As far as his nominee, Obama said he would repeat the stand of other presidents by not judging candidates with a single-issue test on abortion.

"But I will say that I want somebody who is going to be interpreting our Constitution in a way that takes into account individual rights, and

what others did — or did not do — with knowledge of Massa's conduct.

Debra Katz, a lawyer for a former Massa staffer who last month filed a sexual harassment complaint against Massa, said Wednesday she had been contacted by the FBI's public corruption unit. Katz said the FBI asked that her client, whom she refused to identify, preserve all documents that he had in his possession involving the ex-congressman. She said the FBI is not investigating the sexual harassment complaint.

"I presume their focus is on issues raised over the weekend," Katz said.

Massa's campaign cut a check for \$40,000 to his chief of staff, Joe Racalto, who also has filed a sexual harassment complaint against Massa.

The unidentified staffer alleged in the March 23 complaint that Massa regularly groped him, propositioned him and made lewd remarks to him and other staffers, Katz said.

Aggressive sexual overtures by Massa were routine in the freshman lawmaker's congressional office, Katz said. They began in early 2009 shortly after Massa took office and escalated over time, particularly after Massa had been drinking, she said.

To emphasize the importance

that includes women's rights," Obama said. "And that's going to be something that's very important to me."

Under the U.S. Constitution, the Senate must confirm nominations for federal court judgeships. The nine justices of the Supreme Court, because of their power to interpret the law with no further challenge, often generate bitter political hearings before they are approved or rejected.

Stevens leads the liberals on the court, and the person Obama nominates is not expected to change the ideological balance among the nine justices.

Obama made his remarks at the start of a consultative session at the White House with senators who help shape the tone and course of the Senate confirmation process. Seated with him were Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid,

of the case, the ethics panel investigation is being headed by committee Chairman Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., and ranking Republican Jo Bonner of Alabama.

The case has political importance this year. Republicans have tried to make the ethical conduct of Democrats a campaign issue, turning the tables on an issue that Democrats used successfully against Republicans to win control of the House in 2006.

Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., stepped aside as chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee last month after the ethics panel admonished him for allowing corporate money to pay for two trips to Caribbean conferences.

Pelosi's office has acknowledged that Racalto met with Pelosi's staff member and discussed a news story in Massa's hometown paper. The article described Massa's living in a residence with aides on his staff. Racalto told the speaker's office that he had told Massa, who is married, that he should move out. Pelosi's office said Racalto also discussed Massa's use of strong language and the way he ran his office.

The ethics investigation will look into whether House members or employees:

— Had personal knowledge, or were made aware, of Massa's conduct.

— Failed to properly report or fully disclose allegations of misconduct.

— Had a duty to pursue or call attention to the allegations.

The committee said it will also investigate whether money or other payments may have been misappropriated, or fraudulently or improperly distributed.

Racalto's lawyer, Camilla McKinney, said last week that the \$40,000 check was a "deferred payment" for Racalto's work this year and last year on Massa's 2010 re-election campaign and for his work on Massa's transition after the 2008 election.

Massa, however, said the next day in a statement that he did not authorize the \$40,000 check from his campaign account for Racalto. Massa also said that someone forged a \$40,000 salary increase for Racalto on his congressional payroll.

McKinney disputed Massa's account, saying both transactions were done at Massa's direction. She questioned the timing of the allegations in light of Racalto's sexual harassment complaint against Massa, which was filed March 23, but didn't come to light until last week. □



Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., left, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., talk with media after discussing the Supreme Court vacancy left by the retirement of Justice Stevens with President Barack Obama in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Associated Press

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, a Democrat, and Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, the ranking Republican on the

Judiciary panel.

Vice President Joe Biden, a former senator and veteran of many Supreme Court confirmation battles, joined Obama as well. □

Court discovers original OK Corral papers

JONATHAN J. COOPER

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — A missing handwritten transcript from a coroner's inquest done after the legendary gunfight at the OK Corral has resurfaced in a dusty box more than 125 years after the most famous shootout in Wild West history.

The document resurfaced when court clerks stumbled on the box while reorganizing files in an old jail storage room in Bisbee, about 20 miles south of Tombstone.

Stuffed inside was a modern manila envelope marked "keep" with the date 1881.

Court officials turned the document over to state archivists on Wednesday. Experts will immediately begin peeling away tape, restoring the paper and ink, and digitizing the pages.

The first pages could show up on the library's website for historians to review as soon as next week. It's unlikely the transcript will provide any shattering revelations, since historians have already reviewed photocopies of the document and the inquest was covered in detail by local newspapers at the time.

But history buffs said the transcript is enlightening nonetheless, clearing up fuzzy points in the copies and revealing small notes that might not have appeared on the photocopies.

"They were handled by the people of that moment, and they're the actual artifact that encapsulated that time period," said GladysAnn Wells, Arizona State Librarian.

The 1881 gun battle between the forces of law

and a gang of rustlers left three men dead, made folk heroes of Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday and inspired numerous movies about the untamed Old West.

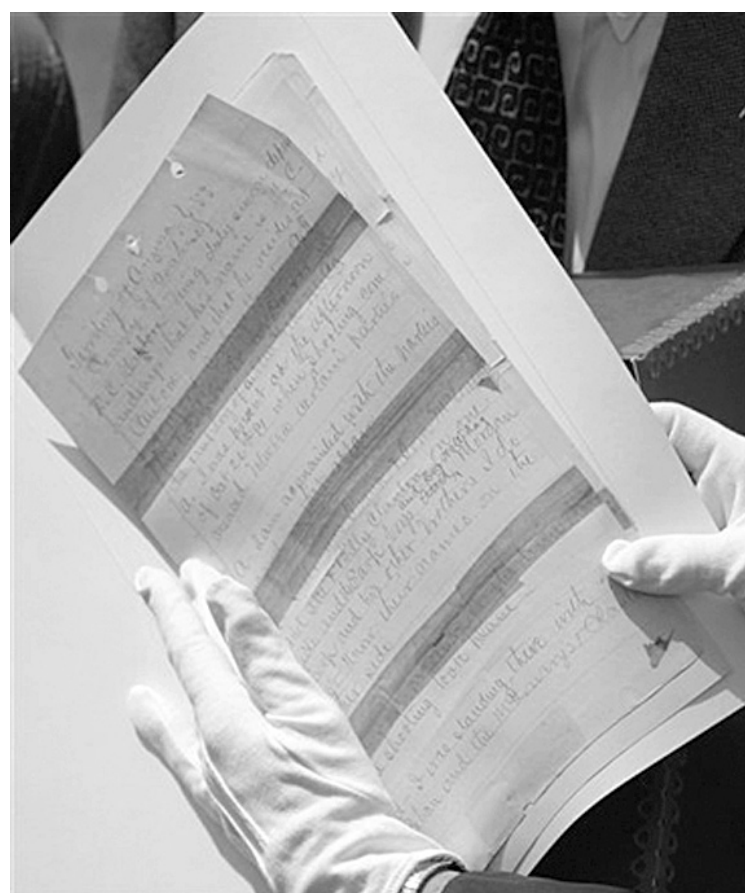
The inquest was done on the same day Earp, his two brothers and Holliday confronted a gang of drunken outlaws, sparking a 30-second gun battle in the streets of Tombstone that killed Frank and Tom McLaury and Bill Clanton.

The document has been missing for decades — last seen when it was photocopied in the 1960s. The pages include verbatim testimony from eyewitnesses to the shootout.

The document is legible, but the paper has darkened to an amber beer color and is brittle like a potato chip, said Cochise County Court Clerk Denise Lundin. The handwriting can be difficult to read because the court reporter was rapidly taking notes, she said.

Even if the document doesn't reveal new information, the discovery helps historians feel more comfortable with the record, said Gary Robertson, a Wild West historian and author of the book "Doc Holliday, the Life and the Legend." But most importantly, it sparks the imagination. "Every time you find one it gives you hope that maybe you'll find some more," Roberts said. "Maybe there will be something else that we've all been dying to get our hands on." Lundin is convinced that somewhere in her courthouse are records of the inquest for Johnny Ringo, another legendary outlaw.

"These things aren't something you can go search for," she said. "You really just have to watch for them." □



GladysAnn Wells, Director, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, uses gloves to show off a page of original court transcripts from the 1881 Coroner's Inquest in the Gunfight at the OK Corral, during a news conference before the documents are handed over to the Arizona State Archives Wednesday, April 21, 2010, in Phoenix. The 36-page hand-written account of witness testimony given after the shootout that left three men dead in Tombstone, Ariz., had been missing for years, until found by two court clerks cleaning out storage space at the Bisbee, Ariz., courthouse in March.

Associated Press



In this aerial photo taken in the Gulf of Mexico more than 50 miles southeast of Venice on Louisiana's tip, an oil slick is seen as the Deepwater Horizon oil rig burns Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Associated Press

RIG EXPLODES

Continued from Front Page

Most of the 126 workers on the rig Deepwater Horizon were believed to have escaped safely after the explosion about 10 p.m. Tuesday, Coast Guard Senior Chief Petty Officer Mike O'Berry said.

The rig, more than 50 miles southeast of Venice on Louisiana's tip, was still burning at midday Wednesday. It was tilting about 70 degrees and threatening to topple

into the water. There was no estimate of when the flames might be out. Helicopters and boats searched the Gulf of Mexico for any sign of the workers who had not been accounted for. "We're hoping everyone's in a life raft," O'Berry said. The Coast Guard said Wednesday that seven workers had been critically injured. Later in the day, West Jefferson Hospital in suburban New Orleans said it treated four people, three of

whom had been released. The University of South Alabama Medical Center said it was treating one person in its burn unit and evaluating five others. O'Berry said many workers who escaped were being brought to land on a work boat expected to arrive Wednesday evening. When the explosion happened, the rig was drilling but was not in production, according to Greg Panagos, spokesman for its owner, Transocean Ltd. in Houston. The rig was under contract to BP PLC. BP spokesman Darren Beaudou said all BP personnel were safe but he didn't know how many BP workers had been on the rig. Panagos said it's still too early to know what caused the explosion.

"Our focus right now is on taking care of the people," he said. O'Berry said Coast Guard environmental teams were on standby in Morgan City, Louisiana, to assess any environmental damage once the fire was out.

According to Transocean's

website, the Deepwater Horizon is 396 feet long and 256 feet wide. The semi-submersible rig was built in 2001 by Hyundai Heavy Industries Shipyard in South Korea. The site is known as the Macondo prospect, in 5,000 feet of water.

The rig is designed to operate in water up to 8,000 feet deep and has a maximum drill depth of about 5.5 miles. It can accommodate a crew of up to 130. A semi-submersible rig is floated to a drilling site. It has pontoons and a column that submerge when flooded with seawater. The rig doesn't touch the sea floor, but sits low in the water, where it is moored by several large anchors.

Last September, the Deepwater Horizon set a world deepwater record when it drilled down just over 35,000 feet at another BP site in the Gulf of Mexico, Panagos said.

"It's one of the more advanced rigs out there," he said.

Panagos did not know how much the rig cost to build, but said a similar rig today would

run \$600 million to \$700 million.

Workers typically spend two weeks on the rig at a time, followed by two weeks off. It is equipped with covered lifeboats with supplies to allow them to survive for extended periods if they must evacuate. Joe Hurt, a regional vice president for the International Association of Drilling Contractors, said working on offshore oil rigs is a dangerous job but has become safer in recent years thanks to enhanced training, improved safety systems and better maintenance.

"In recent years, there's been a lot more money available and more money spent on training and safety," he said.

Transocean has 14 rigs working in the Gulf and 140 worldwide. There are 42 rigs either drilling or doing workovers — upgrades and maintenance — in depths of 1,000 feet or greater in the Gulf of Mexico, according to the federal Minerals Management Service. □



Monsignor Luiz Marques Barbosa, 83, left, listens at a state congressional investigative panel in Alagoas, northeastern Brazil, Monday, April 19, 2010.

Associated Press

Brazil: House arrest for priest on sex tape

BRADLEY BROOKS

Associated Press Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — An 83-year-old Brazilian priest detained on allegations of sexually abusing young boys has been moved from jail to house arrest and authorities told a newspaper published Wednesday they are investigating allegations his accusers extorted money from him.

Monsignor Luiz Marques Barbosa was taken into custody Sunday after an investigation by Brazil's legislature produced allegations that he molested former altar boys, some as young as 12. Prosecutors are weighing whether to file charges.

A police spokesman in the city of Arapiraca in northeastern Alagoas state said Barbosa was transferred from jail to house arrest late Tuesday. The spokesman did not give details, but Barbosa's lawyers argued that he should not remain in jail because of his age and because they said he did not represent a flight risk.

Meanwhile, Daniel Fernandes, a lawyer for Barbosa, told Folha de S. Paulo newspaper that two men who said they were molested by Barbosa when they were younger extorted \$23,000 from the Roman Catholic priest last year. They had threatened to release a video showing him having sex with a third young man, the lawyer said.

The video was made public last month and aired

on the SBT television network. That ignited an investigation into Barbosa and two other priests in his diocese. Bishop Valerio Breda of the Penedo archdiocese said after the video's release that all three priests had been suspended and the church was conducting its own investigation. Police inspector Maria Sousa told Folha de S. Paulo that an investigation was opened into the alleged extortion.

Calls to prosecutors and Fernandes' office rang unanswered Wednesday, a national holiday in Brazil. The police spokesman said he had no information on the extortion claims or investigation into them.

The case is the latest in a series of abuse scandals to hit the church in Latin America.

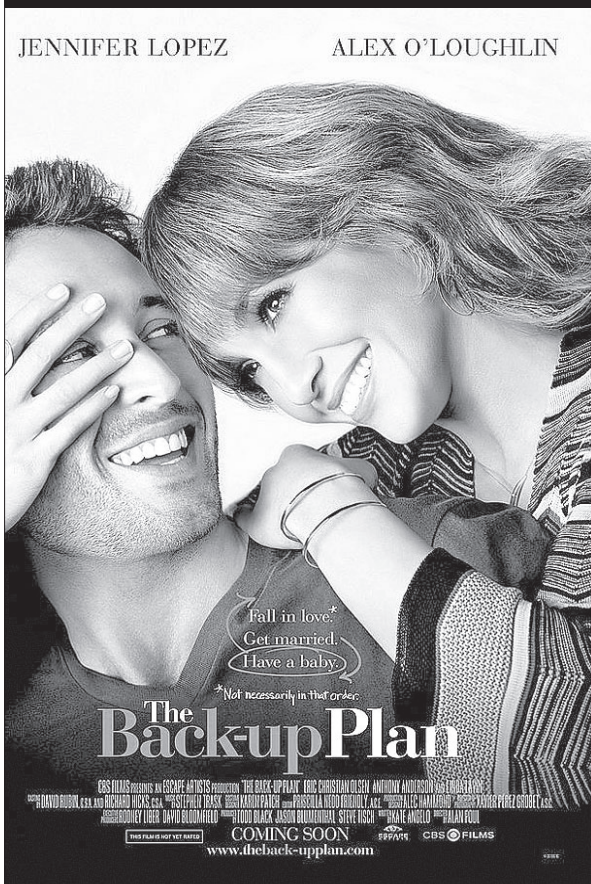
On Tuesday, Chile's bishops asked pardon for past cases of abuse. A priest in Chile was charged recently with eight cases of sexually abusing minors, including a girl he had fathered.

Also Tuesday, a Mexican citizen filed a civil lawsuit in U.S. federal court in California against former priest Nicolas Aguilar Rivera and the Roman Catholic cardinals of Mexico City and Los Angeles, claiming they moved the priest between the two nations to hide abuse allegations. An advocacy group, Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, said the plaintiff alleges Aguilar Rivera molested him in the mid-1990s when he was 12. □



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AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD

PG-13 DEATH AT A FUNERAL

daily:	4:15	6:30	8:45
matinee:	12:00	2:00	late show: 11:00

PG THE LAST SONG

daily:	6:00	8:30	
matinee:	1:00	3:30	late show: 11:00

PG-13 CLASH OF THE TITANS

daily:	6:00	8:30	
matinee:	1:00	3:30	late show: 11:15

PG-13 THE BOUNTY HUNTER

daily:	4:00	6:30	9:00
matinee:	1:30		late show: 11:45

PG-13 WHY DID I GET MARRIED TOO

daily:	4:00	6:45	9:15
matinee:	1:30		late show: 11:45

PG ALICE IN WONDERLAND

daily:	5:30		
matinee:	12:30	3:00	late show:

R GREEN ZONE

daily:		8:15	
matinee:		late show: 11:00	

AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG-13 THE BACK-UP PLAN

daily:	4:00	6:15	8:30
matinee:	1:30		late show: 11:15

R COP OUT

daily:	6:15	9:00	
matinee:	1:00	3:45	late show: 11:30

PG HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

daily:	4:15	6:30	8:45
matinee:	1:45		late show: 11:00

PG-13 OUR FAMILY WEDDING

daily:	5:30	7:45	9:45
matinee:	12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00

PG DIARY OF A WIMPY KID

daily:			
matinee:	12:30	2:45	late show:

R REPO MEN

daily:	5:30	8:00	
matinee:	12:15	3:00	late show: 11:00

PG-13 DATE NIGHT

daily:	5:00	7:30	9:30
matinee:		late show: 11:45	

Bosnian war veterans clash with police

RADUL RADOVANOVIC

Associated Press Writer

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — War veterans protesting proposed cuts in state benefits set fire to a regional government building in Bosnia on Wednesday and drove back riot police who tried to disperse them.

The police used tear gas against the more than 5,000 protesters then withdrew, leading the protesters to storm the building, break its windows and set the ground floor on fire.

A small group of policemen was temporarily trapped between the blaze and the furious protesters, but ambulance crews pulled them to safety.

Police said 69 people were injured, 32 of them policemen and 37 demonstrators.

The veterans had fought in the Bosnian war that pitted the country's three main ethnic factions — Serbs, Croats and Bosniaks, or Bosnian Muslims

— against each other after Bosnia split from what was then Yugoslavia. More than 100,000 people were killed in Europe's bloodiest conflict since World War II before a peace was brokered in 1995.

The government of the joint Bosniak-Croat federation that now makes up the country along with a Serb republic is trying to cut its spending to meet conditions of a €1.2 billion (\$1.62 billion) loan from the International Monetary Fund.

War veterans now receive the equivalent of 150 to 500 euros a month (\$200 to \$665), but the government plan would reduce that and strip some better off veterans of the bulk of their benefits, especially if they have other sources of income.

The veterans have only agreed to accept small reductions.

About 40 percent of the regional budget was spent on social benefits last year.

The regional prime minister,

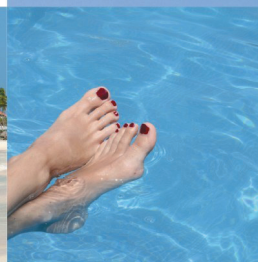


A Bosnian war veteran reacts during clashes with police, at the Bosnian federal government building, in Sarajevo, Wednesday, April 21, 2010. War veterans protesting proposed cuts in state benefits set fire to a regional government building in Bosnia on Wednesday and drove back riot police who tried to disperse them.

Associated Press

Mustafa Mujezinovic, said if that percentage isn't reduced Bosnia will not receive the €1.2 billion IMF loan and have to cut benefits even further.

If that happens, he said, Wednesday's street protest of a few thousand people could grow to several hundred thousand demonstrators. □



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Sarkozy to submit bill banning Islamic face veils



In this June 19, 2009 file photo, two women, one wearing the niqab, a veil worn by the most conservative Muslim that exposes only a woman's eyes, right, walk side by side, in the Belsunce district of downtown Marseille. French President Nicolas Sarkozy has ordered legislation that would ban women from wearing Islamic veils that fully cover the face and body in public places, the government said Wednesday April 21, 2010.

Associated Press

SYLVIE CORBET

Associated Press Writer

PARIS (AP) — French President Nicolas Sarkozy on Wednesday ordered legislation that would ban women from wearing Islamic veils that hide the face in the street and other public places.

In seeking to forbid the garment from public view, Sarkozy defied the advice of experts sought by the government who warned that such a broad ban risked contravening France's constitution.

Such a measure would put France on the same track as Belgium, which is also moving toward a complete ban in a similar reaction as Islamic culture has come in conflict with native European values. Sarkozy has repeatedly said that such clothing oppresses women and is "not welcome" in France.

Government spokesman Luc Chatel said after Wednesday's weekly Cabinet meeting that

the president decided the government should submit a bill to parliament in May on an overall ban on burqa-like veils.

"The ban on veils covering the whole face should be general, in every public space, because the dignity of women cannot be put in doubt," Chatel said. The decision to seek a full ban, rather than a limited ban, came as a surprise. After a Cabinet meeting just a week ago, the government spokesman announced a decision for legislation that bans the veil but takes into account conclusions on the matter by the Council of State, France's highest administrative office.

The government had sought the council's opinion to ensure a law would pass constitutional muster. The Council of State advised that a full ban would be "legally very fragile." A six-month parliamentary inquiry also concluded that a full ban would raise constitutional issues, as well as enforcement problems. "It's a transgression, an aggression even, on the level of personal liberty," said Abdellatif Lemsibak, a member of the National Federation of Muslims of France. "The Muslims have the right to an orthodox expression of their religion ... it shocks me."

France is a firmly secular country but has western Europe's largest Muslim population, estimated at some 5 million. France worries about clashes in values as well as about a spread of radical Islam. Authorities widely see the veil in light of gender equality and security issues.

In neighboring Belgium, a similar initiative for a ban on full veils in public places, including in the streets, is expected to become law in July.

Muslim leaders in France say that the face-covering veil is not a religious requirement of Islam but have cautioned against banning the garment. The government spokesman said the French president considered that burqa-style

veils that hide the face, such as niqabs, "do not pose a problem in a religious sense, but threaten the dignity of women."

The government "is ready to take legal risks because the stakes are worth it," said Prime Minister Francois Fillon.

France outlawed Muslim headscarves and other "ostentatious" religious symbols from classrooms in 2004 after a marathon parliamentary debate and, "we are acting in the same way today. We have decided to legislate," Chatel said.

Numerous school girls wore headscarves in class, but only a tiny minority of women wear the all-covering veil. Nevertheless, debate on the question of whether a law is needed and how far it should reach has continued for nearly a year. Muslim leaders say that the debate itself has stigmatized Muslims, as has a national debate on the French identity.

Even within Sarkozy's own conservative UMP party, the question of forbidding face-covering veils in streets is divisive.

One of the party's leading lawmakers, Jean-Francois Cope, had already filed his own preliminary bill for a global ban on the garments — which should be superseded by the government's. Cope called Sarkozy's decision "wise" and said the government needs to move rapidly "so the French know that, on this point, we are truly determined."

Cope, speaking to reporters, suggested the law should be passed by the end of July — but followed by a six-month consultation period before it is applied.

Sarkozy insisted that "everything should be done so that no one feels stigmatized," Chatel said without elaborating.

The French parliament is already slated to discuss a nonbinding resolution on May 11 that sets out political principles, including the need for women to keep their faces uncovered. □

Gunmen abduct three from hotel in northern Mexico

OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Dozens of gunmen burst into a Holiday Inn hotel in the northern industrial city of Monterrey on Wednesday and abducted at least three people, prosecutors said. The Nuevo Leon state attorney general's office said it was not clear what motivated the abductions or who the victims were.

Local media reported that as many as 50 masked gunmen hijacked several trucks and used them to block streets near the hotel during the raid. But a prosecutor's spokesman, who said he was not authorized to be quoted by name, said it was unclear if the two events were related.

The U.S. Consulate in Monterrey denied media reports that an American woman had been kidnapped from the Holiday Inn, and it repeated warnings to U.S. citizens to be wary of violence in Nuevo Leon state.

Violence by battling drug cartels has become increasingly intrusive in Monterrey, where drug cartels have tried to confound police and soldiers by blockading roads with stolen, sometimes-burning vehicles.

On March 19, two university students were killed in the crossfire of a shootout between gunmen and soldiers outside the gates of their campus.

Since those shootings, at least three U.S. universities have suspended their exchange studies programs in Monterrey, a major industrial hub.

In one wealthy suburb on Monterrey, the mayor created a group of private crime fighters, unaffiliated with police and paid with donations by local businessmen — a security force he now says will be disbanded.

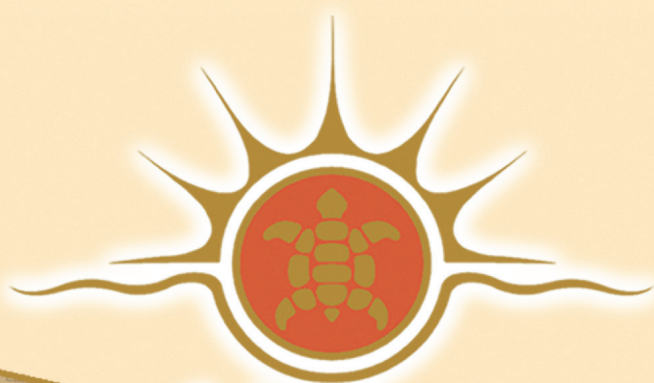
Mayor Mauricio Fernandez of San Pedro Garza Garcia said the group was "smeared" by allegations it might itself be involved in illegal activities.

He previously said the group would perform "rough work, I would call it cleansing" and suggested it might operate outside the law.

Elsewhere, police found the bound bodies of two men in the Mexican city of Cuernavaca, alongside a banner that threatened to kill 25 more drug cartel members.

Police said the killings are part of a battle between traffickers Hector Beltran Leyva and U.S.-born Edgar Valdez Villarreal, known as "La Barbie." Cuernavaca police said the bodies were found early Wednesday outside a bar.

A message left near the cadavers said 25 of Beltran Leyva's henchmen are being held and interrogated in the Pacific coast resort of Acapulco and would be executed soon. □



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TRAIN DERAILS

Continued from Front Page

The train was carrying nearly 60 passengers, and about 20 of them were injured, including 10 Americans, the U.S. Embassy and reports from emergency officials said.

The Rovos Rail voyage had begun in Cape Town and was close to its destination in Pretoria when it stopped for what is usually a routine change from an electric to a steam locomotive, said Nothemba Dlali of Metro Rail, which oversees rail service in South Africa's major population centers. The train trip is billed as a re-creation of the golden age of travel.

Dlali said the train began moving after the electric locomotive was removed but before the steam engine could be attached, and gathered speed while rolling down a slope.

Seventeen coaches derailed just outside a station in Pretoria, said Johan Pieterse of the capital's community safety department. Pieterse said two people died at the scene. Power tools had to be used to cut some passengers from the wreckage.

"Patients were strewn all over the scene," said Werner Vermaak, spokesman for a private ambulance company ER24, the South African Press Association reported.

Emergency worker Chris Botha told SAPA the pregnant woman went into labor immediately after the crash, possibly from the force of the impact, but neither she nor her baby survived.

Crumpled cars on their sides with broken windows littered the site. Metrorail said it would take two days to clear the debris, during which rail service in and out of the capital would be disrupted and buses would be pressed into service. The train derailment comes just seven weeks before hundreds of thousands of foreign tourists are expected to descend upon South Africa for the World Cup.

Transport Minister Sibusiso Ndebele said in a statement the derailment was an isolated incident that would not affect "the country's ability and readiness to host the tournament."

The passengers included 44 Americans, four each from France, South Africa and Britain, and three from Germany, for a total of 59, Vos said. The U.S. Embassy put the number of Americans at 40. The discrepancy could not be immediately resolved. The embassy said 10 Americans were hospitalized. U.S. Ambassador Donald Gips went to the scene to express condolences.

"Our thoughts and prayers



Rescue workers search the scene of a train derailment in Pretoria, South Africa, Wednesday, April 21, 2010. A restored train carrying foreign tourists on a luxury rail safari went off the tracks Wednesday outside a station in the South African capital, killing two people. Seventeen coaches of the Rovos Rail train, which was near the end of a journey from Cape Town, derailed just outside a station in the city, Johan Pieterse of Pretoria's community safety department said. Pieterse said along with the two who died at the scene, 25 others were taken to hospitals.

are with the people impacted by this accident," he said in a statement. "We want to thank the South African emergency response and others who assisted immediately, and we will continue working closely with South African authorities to help the affected Americans."

The two-day Cape Town-Pretoria trip can cost from about \$1,500 to nearly \$3,000 per passenger.

Rovos Rail offers holiday trips across Africa. The trains combine Edwardian period features such as wood paneling with modern conveniences like air conditioning and hot showers. The Rovos Rail website says the trains can carry as many as 72 passengers in 36 cabins. The routes were established in 1989 and run with restored locomotives. The oldest engine in the fleet is a 76-ton "Class 6" locomotive

Associated Press originally built in 1893; the youngest is a 225-ton steam engine built in 1954.

The train travels around South Africa and to Namibia and Tanzania.

The train also traverses the famed "Cape to Cairo" route, a monthlong journey between Cape Town near the southern tip of South Africa and Egypt's bustling capital. That journey can cost up to \$56,000 per passenger. □



In this photo provided by Mariza Alyrio, Monica Beresford-Redman is shown at her Zabumba Brazilian restaurant, in Dec. 2009, made available Thursday, April 8, 2010. Beresford-Redman's sisters say they will travel to Mexico soon to recover her body and get an update on the investigation. Bruce Beresford-Redman remains Mexican authorities' prime suspect in his wife Monica's disappearance and death earlier this month in Cancun.

(AP Photo/Courtesy Mariza Alyrio)

CANCUN, Mexico – A TV producer's correspondence

Mexico: report of problems in producer's marriage

with his wife, who was found dead at a Mexican resort, indicated problems in their marriage, a prosecutor said Wednesday.

Rodolfo Garcia Pliego, the assistant attorney general of the Caribbean coast state of Quintana Roo, said the mother and sisters of victim Monica Beresford-Redman showed him "a series of exchanges" between the woman and her husband, Bruce Beresford-Redman.

"Excuse me for not releasing the contents of the documents, which showed the state of the relationship," he told reporters after meeting with the family. "It appears there were problems there."

State prosecutors say Beresford-Redman, a former producer of "Survivor" and co-creator of the "Pimp My Ride" show, is a suspect in the slaying of his wife. Her body was discovered April 8 in a sewer at the Moon Palace Resort in Cancun two days

after the producer said she had failed to return from a shopping trip.

Garcia Pliego said he has requested that the woman's remains be turned over to her relatives, noting that the husband has not asked for the body. Forensics experts have been carrying out tests in the remains.

The woman's sisters said the marriage was crumbling as a result of a long-term affair Beresford-Redman was having with another woman and that she had gone on the trip to Mexico in an attempt to save her marriage.

Beresford-Redman has not publicly commented on those reports. He has been barred from leaving Mexico until the death investigation is complete.

His wife's body was found in a sewer at the Moon Palace Resort in Cancun on April 8, two days after Beresford-Redman said she failed to return from a shopping trip. □

"The Losers" Premiere



Zoe Saldana arrives at the Film premiere of "The Losers" in Los Angeles, Calif. on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Jenny Peters

Los Angeles – Everyone was a winner on the red carpet at the premiere of "The Losers" at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood on Tuesday, April 20, especially the film's six leading actors. Zoe Saldana, the lone female in the cast, belied her on-screen tough-girl role by spreading hugs and kisses to the guys that make up the comic-book-based title

characters.

"When you're the only girl in a cast, I almost feel like you have twice as much work to do because you don't want to be singled out," Saldana said earlier at a press conference for the film. "So I toughed it out! I really wanted to impress the guys and I like being around men."

She was surrounded by those macho men on the carpet, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Chris Evans, Columbus Short and Oscar Jaenada, who are the guys who actually make up the title characters of "The Losers." That's the group whose story is based on a DC Comics series, a U.S. Special Forces Unit that runs into some big trouble as the film unspools. All four cleaned up nicely for the premiere, dressed up in sharp suits, a big change from their Army fatigues in the film; and Morgan even brought his mother along to the slightly wet premiere, as an unusual April rainstorm swept across Hollywood Boulevard. Jason Patric, who plays the powerful bad guy in the film, joined Alan Horn, Joel Silver and Akiva Goldsman, the power players from Warner Bros., in giving the "The Losers" director Sylvain White a hearty handshake.

As the clouds blew out and the night turned gorgeous, plenty of Tinseltown's beautiful people turned out to see the action-and-violence-packed movie. Bryce Dallas Howard, Dania Ramirez, LisaRaye McCoy and Kristina Anapau brought the beauty, while "The Blind Side" star Quinton Aaron brought the size, as he towered over the rest. Neal McDonough, Keith Robinson and Kristoffer Polaha of "Mad Men" fame rounded out the celebrity sightings, all of which made "The Losers" the night's big winner in Hollywood. □

8 minus Kate: Another star axed from 'Dancing'

By SANDY COHEN,
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES – Reality TV mom Kate Gosselin has one fewer job to juggle. The author and reality star was eliminated Tuesday from "Dancing With the Stars," leaving seven couples in the competition.

Gosselin failed to ignite the ballroom, landing near the bottom of the judges' leaderboard during five weeks of dancing. She and professional partner Tony Dovolani came into Tuesday's results show with the week's lowest score: 15 points out of 30 for a lackluster foxtrot.

"I think Tony could have had more life out of a frock on a coat hanger," judge Bruno Tonioli said Monday.

Judges' scores are combined with viewer votes to determine which celebrity is eliminated each week.

Dovolani praised his partner as she dabbed her eyes with a tissue after learning their fate.

"I give her all the credit for showing up, as exhausted as she was, she still showed up every day," he said. "You showed America that it doesn't matter how much things go against you, you still come out here and give it your best."

Gosselin, a 35-year-old mother of twins and sextuplets, starred for several seasons with her ex-husband, Jon, in the

hit TLC reality show "Jon & Kate Plus 8." The show collapsed as the couple's marriage fell apart.

She said through tears Tuesday that she was honored to have been on the hit ABC show.

"I love everyone that I met," she said, apologizing for being "a crybaby."

"It was a great experience," she continued. "I had a wonderful teacher." She said that despite her low scores, she gave her best in the ballroom.

"I was scared to death most of the time to be out here," she said.

Gosselin and her ex-husband are due in court in Pennsylvania on May 25 for a hearing on his motion for full custody. Earlier this month, his attorney accused the reality mom of neglecting the children to appear on "Dancing With the Stars," a charge her attorney rejected as "patently false."

Kate Gosselin is the fourth contestant to be dismissed from "Dancing." Soap star Aiden Turner, astronaut Buzz Aldrin and actress Shannen Doherty were eliminated on previous episodes.

Returning to dance on Monday's episode are singer Nicole Scherzinger, Olympic figure skater Evan Lysacek, actresses Pamela Anderson and Niecy Nash, reality star Jake Pavelka, sportscaster Erin Andrews and football star Chad Ochocinco. □



In this image released by ABC, Kate Gosselin, right, and her partner Tony Dovolani compete in the celebrity dance competition series, 'Dancing with the Stars,' Monday, April 19, 2010 in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/ABC, Adam Larkey)



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BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Stocks muddled as glow from Apple results fades

By STEPHEN BERNARD
and TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK — The stock market traded in a tight range Wednesday after the glow of strong results at Apple Inc. and a few other companies faded.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose about 3 points in afternoon trading. Broader indexes were mixed.

Technology and financial shares drew some buyers after the reports from Apple and Morgan Stanley. Analysts caution, however, that investors are starting to become accustomed to better earnings and even good news

on profits may not be enough to push the market higher.

“This market is overbought and it really does need a little bit of a pullback. We’re priced for perfection,” said Burt White, chief investment officer for LPL Financial in Boston.

Apple’s earnings easily topped expectations thanks to strong sales of iPhones, sending its stock up 6 percent. Apple was the latest in a string of technology companies to report improving profits as the economy recovers. Intel Corp. and IBM Corp. also posted stronger sales and profits.

Morgan Stanley rose 5 percent after its first-quarter earnings

climbed from increased trading revenue. Wells Fargo & Co. lost about 2 percent after its earnings slipped on soured consumer loans.

Mike McGervey, president of McGervey Wealth Management in North Canton, Ohio, said most of the profit reports are so strong that stocks likely will be able to keep climbing even though he thinks the market has run too far given the fragile economy. “We have seen tremendous earnings,” he said. “Companies today really have demonstrated a will to survive and be profitable literally almost in any environment.”

Investors were also looking



FILE - In this file photo taken March 8, 2010, the the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange, is seen. Stock futures were mixed Wednesday, April 21, 2010, with Nasdaq futures rising after strong earnings from Apple boosted the technology industry.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan, file)



General Motors Co. CEO Edward Whitacre Jr., claps during a news conference at the GM Fairfax plant Wednesday, April 21, 2010, near Kansas City, Kansas.

(AP Photo/Orlin Wagner)

By TOM KRISHER,
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT — General Motors Co. has repaid \$8.1 billion in loans it got from the U.S. and Canadian governments, a move its CEO says is a sign the automaker is on the road to recovery.

CEO Ed Whitacre announced the repayments Wednesday at GM’s Fairfax Assembly Plant in Kansas City, Kan., where he said GM is investing \$257 million in that factory and the Detroit-Hamtramck plant. He was to meet with top lawmakers in Washington on Wednesday afternoon.

GM pays back government loans from US, Canada

The White House pointed to GM’s repayment of the loan and Chrysler LLC’s posting of an operating profit in the first quarter of 2010 as concrete signs that the bailout of the U.S. automakers was working.

In a report, the Obama administration noted the American auto industry lost more than 400,000 jobs in 2008 and analysts estimated another 1 million would have been lost had GM and Chrysler been liquidated. In the past nine months, the White House said automakers have added 45,000 jobs, the industry’s strongest job growth in nearly a decade.

“This turnaround wasn’t an accident of history,” White House economic adviser Larry Summers said in a blog posting.

GM got a total of \$52 billion from the U.S. government and \$9.5 billion from the Canadian and Ontario governments as it went through bankruptcy protection last year. At first the entire amount of U.S. aid

was considered a loan as the government tried to keep GM from going under and pulling the fragile economy into a depression.

But during bankruptcy, the U.S. government reduced the loan portion to \$6.7 billion and converted the rest to company stock, while the Canadian government held \$1.4 billion in loans. Those loans were repaid Tuesday, five years ahead of schedule.

The automaker hopes to begin repaying the remaining \$45.3 billion to the U.S. government and \$8.1 billion to Canada via a public stock offering, perhaps later this year. The U.S. government now owns 61 percent of the company and Canada owns roughly 12 percent.

“Nobody was happy that GM needed government loans — not the governments, not the taxpayers and, quite frankly, not the company,” Whitacre wrote in an op-ed article that appeared on The Wall Street Journal’s Web site Tuesday night. □

to Washington. A proposed tax on banks that could raise \$90 billion over the next decade could be a drag on the financial industry and the broader market. The idea, first proposed by President Barack Obama in January, is gaining support in Congress and could be added to a bill overhauling financial regulation. Congress is working on revamping financial regulation.

The stock market has been rising for 13 months since major stock indexes hit 12-year lows. For more than two months there have been few interruptions in the advance. Analysts say some break is needed to keep stocks from getting overheated.

In midafternoon trading, the Dow rose 2.65, or less than 0.1 percent, to 11,119.71. The Dow has risen eight of the past nine days.

The broader Standard & Poor’s 500 index fell 1.98, or 0.2 percent, to 1,205.19. The Nasdaq composite index rose 0.63, or less than 0.1 percent, to 2,500.94.

Advancing stocks narrowly outpaced those that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 677.5 million shares, compared with

685.9 million traded at the same point Tuesday.

Bond prices were mixed. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 3.76 percent from 3.80 percent late Tuesday.

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. on Tuesday reported better-than-expected profit as well, but its shares dipped because of concerns around civil fraud charges the bank faces tied to its subprime mortgage securities business.

A rebound in oil prices after a nearly two-week slide helped energy stocks and the broader market as well.

Oil rose again Wednesday. Gold was also higher as the dollar was mixed against other major currencies.

Crude oil rose 3 cents to \$83.88 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Apple rose \$14.56, or 6 percent, to \$259.15. The stock topped its previous record of \$251.14 set Friday.

Morgan Stanley rose \$1.50, or 5 percent, to \$31.95, while Wells Fargo fell 82 cents, or 2.4 percent, to \$32.87.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 1.99, or 0.3 percent, to 723.54. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Roethlisberger banned six games

BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

NEWYORK (AP)—The NFL cracked down on one of its stars Wednesday, suspending Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger for not just a few games but the first six of the season, even though he avoided sexual assault charges in Georgia. The two-time Super Bowl winner was banned without pay for violating the NFL's personal conduct policy and was ordered to undergo a "comprehensive behavioral evaluation by professionals." NFL commissioner Roger Goodell handed down the punishment a week after prosecutors decided not to charge Roethlisberger in a case involving a 20-year-old college student who accused him of sexually assaulting her in a Milledgeville, Georgia, nightclub last month.

"I recognize that the allegations in Georgia were disputed and that they did not result in criminal charges being filed against you," Goodell said in his letter to



Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) takes a snap from center Justin Hartwig as Steelers' Doug Legursky (64) and Ramon Foster (73) look on during the NFL team's practice in Pittsburgh Monday, April 19, 2010.

Associated Press

the six-year veteran.

"My decision today is not based on a finding that you violated Georgia law, or on a conclusion that differs from that of the local prosecutor. That said, you are held to a higher

standard as an NFL player, and there is nothing about your conduct in Milledgeville that can remotely be described as admirable, responsible, or consistent with either the values of the league or the

expectations of our fans."

Goodell said team offseason activities were off limits to the quarterback until he completes the evaluation and is cleared by the league to rejoin the Steelers.

"Your conduct raises sufficient concerns that I believe effective intervention now is the best step for your personal and professional welfare," Goodell wrote.

Trade rumors immediately swirled, and while the Steelers declined to address the speculation, they were privately weighing whether they should consider dealing their franchise quarterback for a Top 10 draft pick if one were offered.

Sitting out all six games would cost Roethlisberger an estimated \$2.8 million, though the penalty could be shortened to four games for good behavior.

Roethlisberger is the first player suspended by Goodell under the conduct policy who hasn't been arrested or charged with a crime.

Continued on Page 14



Tennis player Venus Williams is introduced on Saturday, April 10, 2010, at Caesars Tennis Classic in Atlantic City, N.J.

Associated Press.

Venus Williams bows out of Fed Cup

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (AP) — Venus Williams will not play for the United States in the Fed Cup semifinals against Russia this weekend, joining her sister Serena on the sidelines.

Williams said Wednesday she is still rehabilitating a troublesome knee injury and isn't ready to return to competition.

"I waited until this moment in hopes that I would have an opportunity to play, but I am being advised by my medical support team that I will need more time to recover," Williams said in a statement to USTA.com.

U.S. captain Mary Joe Fernandez said Williams told her of the decision Wednesday morning. Fernandez had been holding out a spot for the matches, hoping at least one of the sisters would recover from leg problems in time to compete.

Fernandez said that Venus is not quite ready. She wore wraps on both legs in the tournament final April 3 in Key Biscayne, Florida. □



This April 11, 2010, file photo shows Tiger Woods taking the second of two shots to get out of a bunker on the second hole during the final round of the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga. Woods added two more tournaments Wednesday to a schedule that is not much different from previous years except for the timing.

Associated Press

Tiger Woods enters two more tournaments

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP) — Tiger Woods added two more tournaments Wednesday to a schedule that is not much different from previous years except for the timing.

Woods entered The Players Championship and the AT&T National, which benefits his foundation.

It was the second straight week that Woods made an early commitment to a PGA Tour event, allowing for more time to promote his appearance. For years, the world's No. 1 player waited until the last few days before signing up.

Last week, Woods beat the deadline by eight days for entering the Quail

Hollow Championship, which starts April 29.

He signed up for The Players Championship, which starts May 6, nine days ahead of the deadline.

Woods no longer is the host of the AT&T National, which will be held over the Fourth of July weekend at Aronimink outside Philadelphia. It had been played the last three years at outside of Washington at Congressional, which will host the U.S. Open next year.

Woods missed five months while caught in a sex scandal that shattered his image and cost him three major endorsements. He returned at the Masters, where he tied for fourth. □

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**Thunder's Brooks named NBA coach of the year**

JEFF LATZKE

AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Oklahoma City Thunder coach Scott Brooks was recognized Wednesday as the NBA's coach of the year after engineering the league's best turnaround.

The Thunder won 27 more games this season than they did a year ago, winning 50 and losing 32 and earning the No. 8 seed in the Western Conference playoffs with the NBA's youngest roster.

The improvement came without a significant free agent signing. Instead, the team is primarily the same group of players as last season plus rookies James Harden, Serge Ibaka and Eric Maynor.

Brooks and the Thunder now face another daunting turnaround: an 0-2 deficit in their best-of-seven series against the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers. Game 3 is Thursday night in Oklahoma City.

"This is the first-time playoff

experience for a lot of us, including myself, and you're playing against one of the best coaches of all sports, one of the best players ever and a team that has 1,000 (games of) playoff experience to ours," Brooks said. "But you learn from playing against the best players and the best teams, and we're going to keep fighting and figuring out ways to beat them."

Back when the Thunder were 3-29 last season, the notion of the playoffs coming to Oklahoma City any time soon was unimaginable.

But it was that same miserable stretch that made general manager Sam Presti confident that Brooks was the right man to lead his team into the future.

While Oklahoma City struggled to the worst start in the NBA, Presti was impressed by the way Brooks stayed the course and never tried to force immediate changes in hopes of making the Thunder better. Brooks received 71 of 123

first-place votes and 480 points to finish ahead of Milwaukee's Scott Skiles (26 first-place votes, 313 points) and Portland's Nate McMillan (9, 107).

"He's someone that I think is incredibly consistent as a person.

He is unaffected through adversities and also through successes, and I think that's an important quality we want to have as we move forward," Presti said.

While the Thunder didn't immediately start winning after Brooks took over for the fired P.J. Carlesimo, there were signs of progress. His decision to move Kevin Durant from shooting guard to small forward increased his production, and the addition of Thabo Sefolosha and Nenad Krstic plus defensive-minded assistant Ron Adams started to pay dividends, too.

"We were improved once he took over as the coach. We still lost some games that were tough but we were learning



Oklahoma City Thunder head coach Scott Brooks, right, and general manager Sam Presti pose with the Red Auerbach Trophy presented to Brooks as the NBA Coach of the Year during a press conference at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City, on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

Associated Press

and we were getting better each day in practice," said Durant, who developed into the NBA's youngest scoring champion this season.

"I knew if we continued to do that and not come in and just

say, 'Our season's done. Ain't no need to practice. Ain't no need to work hard.'

We still came in and worked every day, and he made sure he brought it every day as a coach." □



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, right, and Pau Gasol, of Spain, high-five during the second half of Game 2 in a first-round NBA basketball playoff series in Los Angeles, Tuesday, April 20, 2010. Standing in the middle is Oklahoma City Thunder forward Nick Collison. The Lakers won 95-92.

Associated Press

NBA Playoffs**Lakers fight to see off Thunder**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers lost the lead three times in the fourth quarter before edging the Oklahoma City Thunder 95-92 to take a 2-0 lead in the NBA Western Conference playoff series.

Kobe Bryant scored 39 points, carrying the Lakers in the fourth quarter. He was 13 of 15 from the free throw line, but just 12 of 28 from the floor. Los Angeles' Pau Gasol had 25 points and 12 rebounds, and Andrew Bynum had six points and 10 boards for the defending champions, who failed to sustain their strong start for the second straight game.

Kevin Durant led the Thunder with 32 points and Russell Westbrook added 19, making all eight of his free throws.

Game 3 is Thursday in Oklahoma City. The Lakers are 39-1 all-time when winning first two games of a best-of-seven series.

Celtics 106, Heat 77

In Boston, the hosts didn't miss Kevin Garnett at all, as Glen Davis filled in to lead them over Miami for a 2-0 series lead.

With Garnett serving a one-game suspension, Davis started and had 23 points and eight rebounds, going aggressively to the basket to grab missed shots and draw fouls.

The Heat led 29-25 but the Celtics used a 44-8 surge over the next 16½ minutes to go ahead 69-37, capped by one of Ray Allen's five 3-pointers in the third quarter. Allen led the Celtics with 25 points, while Dwyane Wade scored 29 for the Heat.

Game 3 is Friday in Miami.

Hawks 96, Bucks 86

In Atlanta, Joe Johnson took control in the fourth quarter to finish off a 27-point effort as Atlanta ran away from outmanned Milwaukee □

NHL Roundup

Sharks square series with overtime winner



San Jose Sharks center Joe Pavelski, front, shoots the winning goal as Colorado Avalanche center Paul Stastny looks on in the Sharks' 2-1 overtime victory in Game 4 of the teams' NHL Western Conference first-round playoff series in Denver on Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Associated Press



Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) participates in the NFL team's practice in Pittsburgh Monday, April 19, 2010.

Associated Press

ROETHLISBERGER

Continued from Page 12

Roethlisberger also is being sued by a woman who accused him of raping her at a Lake Tahoe hotel-casino in 2008. He denied the allegation and wasn't charged.

"In your six years in the NFL, you have first thrilled and now disappointed a great many people," Goodell wrote. "I urge you to take full advantage of this opportunity to get your life and career

back on track."

Goodell said the league's conduct policy gave him the right to impose discipline regardless of whether Roethlisberger broke the law. Before acting, Goodell said he interviewed Roethlisberger on April 13 and talked to current and former players and the players' union. He also reviewed information from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and Milledgeville police and talked privately with Georgia district attorney Fred Bright. In addition, Goodell said he listened to recommendations from the quarterback's representatives, and took into account information learned by the NFL office regarding the alleged assault. The Steelers said Roethlisberger was unavailable for comment. His agent, Ryan Tollner, said he planned to respond later.

In a statement to police, the college student said Roethlisberger encouraged her, and her friends, to take numerous shots of alcohol.

DENVER (AP) — Joe Pavelski scored the overtime winner as the top-seeded San Jose Sharks beat the Colorado Avalanche 2-1 on Tuesday to tie their NHL playoff series at 2-2.

Pavelski gathered up a loose puck deep in Colorado's zone and beat Craig Anderson with a shot into the right corner.

Dan Boyle gave the Sharks an early lead, knocking in a slap shot. The Avalanche countered with a second-period goal by Paul Stastny, his first of the series.

All four games have been decided by a goal, the last three going into overtime. Game 5 is Thursday in San Jose.

Evgeny Nabokov stopped 33 shots for the Sharks, and Anderson blocked 43 for Colorado.

Flyers 4, Devils 1

In Philadelphia, the hosts took a commanding 3-1 lead in their series against New Jersey.

Jeff Carter scored two goals

Then one of his bodyguards escorted her into a hallway at the Capital City nightclub in Milledgeville, sat her on a stool and left. She said Roethlisberger walked down the hallway and exposed himself.

"I told him it wasn't OK, no, we don't need to do this and I proceeded to get up and try to leave," she said. "I went to the first door I saw, which happened to be a bathroom." According to her statement, Roethlisberger then followed her into the bathroom and shut the door.

"I still said no, this is not OK, and he then had sex with me," she wrote.

Two of her friends said they saw a bodyguard lead her into the hallway and then saw Roethlisberger follow. They said they couldn't see their friend but knew she was drunk and were worried about her.

The statements were among hundreds of pages of the case file made public last week by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

and Danny Briere had one to end their series scoring droughts, while unlikely postseason star Daniel Carcillo scored his second goal in two games for the Flyers.

Game 5 is Thursday in New Jersey.

The Flyers have won 17 of 19 playoff series when they hold a 3-1 lead.

Penguins 7, Senators 4

In Ottawa, Sidney Crosby had four points, including two of Pittsburgh's five second-period goals, leading the Penguins to a 3-1 series lead over Ottawa.

Crosby assisted on Evgeni Malkin's power-play goal in the first period.

Crosby scored two of Pittsburgh's three goals in a 2:25 span early in the second. Matt Cooke scored 12 seconds after Crosby's first goal to make it 3-0, and the Penguins' 22-year-old captain added his fourth goal of the series at 6:12.

Chris Kunitz had a goal and two assists and Maxime Talbot

Meanwhile, Pennsylvania state trooper Ed Joyner can no longer work as a personal assistant to Roethlisberger because he was present when the alleged assault took place. Pennsylvania State Police said Wednesday that Joyner's outside work exceeded the scope of what was permitted. They also said "he is alleged to have demeaned the image" of the state police.

Steelers president Art Rooney II was on the phone call with Goodell to inform Roethlisberger of the suspension. Previously, Rooney said the team was prepared to discipline Roethlisberger had Goodell not acted.

"When the commissioner acts under the league conduct policy, it is the commissioner's decision," Rooney said. "Clearly in this case we had an opportunity to have input in a number of conversations about what was going to happen. We certainly were able to coordinate on what was the final outcome." □

had a goal and an assist as the teams combined for eight goals in the second, one short of the NHL playoff record for goals in a period.

Jordan Staal scored in the third period. Matt Cullen had a goal and two assists for Ottawa.

Red Wings 3, Coyotes 0

In Detroit, the hosts levelled the series against Phoenix at 2-2.

Jimmy Howard had a 29-save shutout, including a save without his helmet, and Henrik Zetterberg scored twice.

Phoenix will be at home Friday, but has to return to Detroit for Game 6 on Sunday.

Zetterberg's first goal stood after a video review.

Earlier, replays appeared to show Detroit's Valtteri Filppula got a puck past the goal line before it bounced on it, lighting the lamp. A video review upheld the on-ice decision to wave off the goal. Pavel Datsyuk also scored for Detroit.

Predators 4, Blackhawks 1

In Nashville, Tennessee, Nashville took its first ever 2-1 lead in an opening-round series, edging ahead of Chicago.

David Legwand scored the go-ahead goal and had two assists for the Predators, who have never won more than two games in any of their first four playoff appearances. Game 4 is here Thursday.

Joel Ward and Shea Weber also scored for Nashville, and Martin Erat scored on a penalty shot late. The Predators more than made up for the absence of top goal scorer Patric Hornqvist, scratched for a second straight game with an injury.

Tomas Kopecky scored a power-play goal for Chicago.

In other NHL playoffs games it was: Detroit 3, Phoenix 0, series tied 2-2; Pittsburgh 7, Ottawa 4, Pittsburgh leads series 3-1; Philadelphia 4, New Jersey 1, Philadelphia leads series 3-1; Nashville 4, Chicago 1, Nashville leads series 2-1; and San Jose 2, Colorado 1, OT, series tied 2-2. □

Former IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch dies at 89

PAUL LOGOTHETIS

STEPHEN WILSON

AP Sports Writers

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)

— Juan Antonio Samaranch, a reserved but shrewd dealmaker whose 21-year term as president of the International Olympic Committee was marked by both the unprecedented growth of the games and its biggest ethics scandal, died Wednesday at a hospital. He was 89.

Samaranch, a courtly former diplomat who served as Spanish ambassador in Moscow, led the IOC from 1980 to 2001. He was considered one of the defining presidents for building the IOC into a powerful global organization and firmly establishing the Olympics as a world force.

Samaranch was admitted to the Quiron Hospital in Barcelona on Sunday after experiencing heart trouble. The hospital said he died at 1:25 p.m.

“If there is a good way to die, I guess it was this way,” Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr. told The Associated Press. “He had a full life and career.”

IOC president Jacques Rogge will be among the dignitaries attending a special ceremony on Thursday morning before the funeral at Barcelona’s cathedral later that day.

“I cannot find the words to express the distress of the Olympic family,” Rogge said in a statement. “I am personally deeply saddened by the death of the man who built up the Olympic Games of the modern era, a man who inspired me, and whose knowledge of sport was truly exceptional.”

Samaranch’s body will be taken to the regional government’s headquarters Thursday morning so the public can pay its respects from noon until 5 p.m. It will then be taken to the Barcelona cathedral, where the funeral will begin at 6 p.m. The funeral will also be open to the public.

Small in stature and shy by nature, Samaranch appeared uncomfortable appearing or speaking in public. But behind the scenes, he was a skilled and sometimes ruthless operator who could forge consensus in

the often fractious Olympic movement and push IOC members to deliver exactly what he wanted.

Samaranch was also a lightning rod for critics, who attacked him for his ties to the Franco era in Spain, his autocratic style and the IOC’s involvement in the Salt Lake City corruption scandal.

The Samaranch era was perhaps the most eventful in IOC history, spanning political boycotts, the end of amateurism and the advent of professionalism, the explosion of commercialization, a boom in growth and popularity of the games, the scourge of doping, and the Salt Lake crisis.

Samaranch had been bothered by health problems ever since stepping down nine years ago. He was hospitalized for 11 days in Switzerland with “extreme fatigue” in 2001 after returning from the IOC session in Moscow, where Rogge was elected as his successor.

Samaranch was hospitalized shortly afterward in Barcelona for what was described as high blood pressure. He received regular dialysis treatment for kidney trouble. He spent two days in a hospital in Madrid in 2007 after a dizzy spell, and underwent hospital checks in Monaco in October 2009 after feeling ill at a sports conference.

Despite the advancing age and medical troubles, Samaranch continued to travel to IOC meetings around the world. He looked increasingly frail in recent months. Attending the IOC session at the Winter Games in Vancouver in February, he walked with the aid of a female assistant.

Even in retirement, Samaranch remained active in Olympic circles and tried to help Madrid secure the games of 2012 and 2016. Madrid finished third behind winner London and Paris in the 2005 vote for the 2012 Olympics, and second to Rio de Janeiro for 2016.

Samaranch spoke during Madrid’s presentation in Copenhagen on Oct. 2, 2009, virtually asking IOC members to send the games to the Spanish capital as a parting gift for an old man close to his



This Oct. 2, 2009, file photo shows Juan Antonio Samaranch, the former IOC president, speaking during the Madrid 2016 bid presentation during the 121st International Olympic Committee session at the Bella Center in Copenhagen. Samaranch died Wednesday April 21, 2010, at a hospital in Barcelona, Spain. He was 89.

final days.

“Dear colleagues, I know that I am very near the end of my time,” Samaranch said. “I am, as you know, 89 years old. May I ask you to consider granting my country the honor and also the duty to organize the games and Paralympics in 2016.”

In Moscow in 1980, as a little-known Spanish diplomat, Samaranch was elected the seventh president of the IOC, taking the most powerful job in global sports.

Twenty-one years later, as a well-known world figure, Samaranch returned to Moscow to finish his term — basking in the unprecedented

popularity and riches of the games but still bearing the scars of the scandal that led to the ouster of 10 IOC members for receiving improper benefits from the 2002 Salt Lake bid committee.

While his closest friends said Samaranch was extremely emotional and sentimental, outwardly he remained cool and philosophical in his final days in office.

“I’m feeling OK,” he said. “Life is life. There is a beginning and an end. This is the end of my presidency. I’ve known for a long time that this day was coming.”

Even at the end of his Olympic reign in 2001, Samaranch

worked hard to achieve three electoral victories as part of his final legacy: the awarding of the 2008 Olympics to Beijing, the election of Rogge as the new president, and the appointment of his son, Juan Antonio Jr., as an IOC member. Samaranch retired as the second-longest serving president in the history of the IOC. Only Pierre de Coubertin, the French baron who founded the modern Olympics, was in office longer, serving for 29 years (1896-1925). American Avery Brundage served for 20 years (1952-72).

Samaranch was the last IOC leader to stay in office for so long. □

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

AL Roundup

Yankees extend streak, beat A's

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Alex Rodriguez hit a three-run homer to lift the New York Yankees to a 7-3 win over the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday, notching a fifth straight American League win.

Yankees starter Javier Vazquez (1-2) finally showed the form that made him a 15-game winner last season. He entered the game with a 9.82 ERA, but allowed only three runs in 5-1/3 innings, striking out six.

Nick Swisher hit a two-run single against his former team and Jorge Posada also singled home a run in New York's three-run first inning against Gio Gonzalez (1-1).

Plate umpire Ed Rapuano took a foul ball to the chin. He was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital, but the A's said he was alert when he left the ballpark.

Twins 5, Indians 1

In Minneapolis, Kevin Slowey handcuffed Cleveland's struggling offense for eight innings, steering Minnesota to victory.

Slowey (2-1) gave up one run with nine strikeouts and no walks.

Cleveland got just four innings from starter Justin Masterson (1-1) who gave up five runs, walked five, hit one batter and needed 96 pitches to get through



New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez, center, is congratulated by teammates Nick Johnson, left, and Mark Teixeira after hitting a three-run home run off Oakland Athletics' Craig Breslow during the fifth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, April 20, 2010, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

those four innings.

White Sox 4, Rays 1

In Chicago, the hosts ended Tampa Bay's seven-game winning streak.

John Danks (2-0) pitched eight strong innings, allowing just one run with nine strikeouts.

Paul Konerko hit a solo homer and drove in two runs for the White Sox, who snapped a four-game losing streak.

Tampa Bay left-hander David Price (2-1) allowed

three runs in five innings.

Angels 6, Tigers 5

In Anaheim, Los Angeles overcame another poor bullpen performance to edge Detroit.

Howie Kendrick drove in three runs and Hideki Matsui added a two-run double for the Angels, who won their fifth straight to climb over the .500 mark for the first time since opening day.

Los Angeles starter Scott Kazmir (1-1) was charged with two runs over 5 2-3 innings and struck out seven without issuing a walk.

Tigers starter Rick Porcello (1-1) gave up six runs in 4 1-3 innings. He threw two wild pitches and hit a batter with a pitch.

Blue Jays 4, Royals 3

In Toronto, Vernon Wells homered and John Buck drove in the go-ahead run

with an infield single as Toronto beat Tampa Bay.

Wells went 3 for 4 with two doubles and scored twice, raising his average to .364. Shawn Camp (1-0) pitched 1 2-3 innings of relief for the victory as Toronto won its ninth consecutive home series against the Royals. Kansas City's Kyle Davies (1-1) took the loss.

Red Sox 7, Rangers 6

In Boston, Darnell McDonald, called up from the minors earlier in the day, hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning to tie the game and won it with an RBI single in the ninth to lift struggling Boston over Texas.

The Red Sox snapped a five-game losing streak despite allowing the Rangers to steal a club record nine bases. Texas has dropped

five straight.

Kevin Youkilis opened the ninth with an infield hit off the body of Rangers pitcher Frank Francisco (2-3). He advanced on a passed ball and was sacrificed to third. Mike Lowell was intentionally walked and Adrian Beltre popped to first.

Jason Varitek then walked on four pitches before McDonald lifted a fly ball just over the leap of a fielder.

Nelson Cruz and Elvis Andrus each had three stolen bases as the Rangers opened a 6-1 lead after five innings.

Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon (1-1) pitched a hitless ninth for the win.

Mariners 3, Orioles 1

In Seattle, Jason Vargas extended a stretch of strong starting pitching by Seattle in the victory over struggling Baltimore.

Vargas (2-1) allowed just three hits in seven innings against the anaemic Orioles.

Baltimore is 2-13 overall and had just two runs in two games here.

Orioles starter David Hernandez (0-3) lost his ninth consecutive decision. He allowed seven hits in 6 1-3 innings and left after consecutive doubles by Seattle's No. 8 and 9 hitters made it 3-1.

The Mariners have won six of seven.

In other AL games it was Toronto 4, Kansas City 3 Boston 7, Texas 6 Minnesota 5, Cleveland 1, Chicago White Sox 4, Tampa Bay 1, L.A. Angels 6, Detroit 5

N.Y. Yankees 7, Oakland 3, Seattle 3, Baltimore 1

Aruba TODAY

Don't drink & DRIVE

Occidente remembered marines that died in bom attack



At the Parera marine Base in Curacao and the Marinierskazerne in Savaneta, Aruba, there was a special ceremony to remember Corporal Jeroen Houweling and Marine 1st class Marc Harders, who died in Uruzgan.

In a bomb attack on April 17th that killed the two marines, marine Erik van den Elzen was

also injured. During a special ceremony in Aruba and Curacao, those present remembered the horrible accident as a show of respect to the marines who have died and to show support to their families.

A minute of silence was held after the small ceremony. □

In benifit of Stichting Kinderhuis Imeldahof, Aruba

Local artists Grace Rahusen makes a generous donation



ORANJESTAD – In November, local artist Grace Rahusen held an exhibition of her work at the Frame Shop on Italianstraat.

The gallery displayed her colorful work for a full month, and many of the canvases went to local and international collectors of contemporary art.

At the opening party, the artist generously promised to donate a percentage of sales to Stichting Kinderhuis Imeldahof, Aruba, a foster home organization for children of troubled families. Recently, Dynia Abath-Muller, the director of the home accepted a check from the artist.

"I will definitely give a donation like this again," says Grace," when I have my next exhibition here, the recipient of the funds will perhaps be another children's charity."

And Grace reveals that one

of her collectors, even added another 10% to the price of the painting, earmarking even more money to charity.

The exhibition title Treasure – A Fusion of Art, both Historical and Contemporary, was Grace's 4th solo show.

The collection was surprisingly different from her previous work, and showed an evolutionary process of colorful and vibrant abstract pieces, building on her past achievements such as in Seascapes and Horizons & Landscapes.

The artist incorporated some ancient Indians symbols in her work carefully layering them with contemporary designs and beautiful color combinations, drawing attention to the human ability to create art despite the ongoing digital migration.

Grace's spontaneity as expressed in color is fueled by her own heart. The richness of vibrant colors and her feeling for harmonious shapes can be observed in each of her paintings, which allows them to achieve great artistic appeal. □

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Fun Golf Clinic with head pro Adam Williamson



TIERRA DEL SOL -- Eric Wente of Wente Vineyards recently visited Aruba to hosted the annual Wente Vineyard Golf Tournament at Tierra del Sol. While the tournament was a great success featuring excellent golf combined with gourmet food by Papiamento restaurant, it was also a lot of fun, as head pro Adam Williamson reports.

While the golfers were busy on the 18-hole PGA Golf Course designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., Williamson hosted a fun golf clinic for associates of Arion Wine Company, and some of their clients, who have never played before.

Arion Wine Company representing Wente Vineyards on the island, states that the introduction to golf was very well received, and that the novices promised to practice all year in order to participate in next year's tournament.

Pictured here Eric Wente at the shotgun start of the tournament and some of the fun they've had mixing fine wines with fantastic golf in perfect weather. □



La Cabana celebrates Earth Week with a series of events



EAGLE BEACH – La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club held a Sponsor a Mile activity this week, to mark the opening of Earth Week celebrations. A crew of the resort associates met under the big palapa on the beach, got armed with plastic bags and gloves, shovels, rakes, and buckets and set out to scour the areas around the resort covering the beach, to the north and south sides,

between Amsterdam Manor and Paradise Beach Villas. They concluded the cleaning action over fruits and orange-juice, counting a great number of bags filled with debris removed from the site, mostly cigarette butts, they report, and also some plastic. Pictured here the crew in action with resort Green & Health Team organizers Greta de Cuba and Ena Vrolijk.



The week festivities will ceremony and a tour of Chef also include a tree planting Sony's herb garden. □



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PALM BEACH – The Amazonia Churrascaria crew knows how to party, and they stage phenomenal birthday celebrations.

While the clanking and singing is always well received among adults, babies often burst out in tears, over fire spitting birthday candles and loud clapping.



Except for Rom. On his second birthday, Rom celebrated his special day with no tears, enjoying his candle and cake, and posing for a family picture.

The restaurant is gearing

up for Queen's Birthday the following weekend, celebrating the special day of the Dutch monarch's late mom, on April 30, which is a national holiday, dating since 1885. □

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At Pure Beach

Distinguished visitors honored



PALM BEACH -- Time-share owners at the Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort were honored with certificates of distinction on behalf of the Aruba government this week. The ceremony was conducted by the representative of the Minister of Tourism, Ricardo Croes who thanked the visitors for making Aruba their home away from home. He also expressed sincere gratitude to guests for their loyalty to the island and its people, having brought many friends here, along with family members,



introducing them to the wonders of Aruba. Pictured here Avril Culley representing the resort management and Distinguished Visitors: Charles & Keran Lockhart, Lou DeNome and his daughter, Carol & William Blauvelt, Kathy & Joe Boss, John Borek and family, and Goodwill Ambassador Jose Lozado and his family, from Venezuela, who has been visiting for the past 20 years.

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HUMAN HINTS

Outgrow Your Obstacles

We all have problems in life. Whether we call them opportunities, challenges, or roadblocks, resistance by any other name still requires more time and energy than grace.

We have always focused on overcoming our problems, but to overcome invokes stress, resistance, fighting to overpower what is in our way. This is ego's way of handling obstacles. It seeks to obliterate the opposition, which is the foundation of war. Ego cannot think beyond basic survival, and it has protected us in the three dimensional world based

on Separation. Now that we're shifting into four dimensions based on Unity, Ego's old ways will only hold us back. We are shifting into a new reference point for personal expression.

Instead of overcoming your problems, focus on how you can outgrow them. When we outgrow a problem, it becomes powerless.

When we naturally release our emotions from the obstacle, it disappears.

Obstacles exist only in our own self-defeating thoughts. Problems have the power

to hinder our progress only because we are emotionally attached to them. Our emotions are the lifeblood of our opposition. Without our emotional energy, the problems disappear.

If you take a child's security blanket, the child will learn to life without it. Children will overcome their need for external support, but probably only after separation anxiety sets in and plagues their life. On the other hand, when children outgrow their need for a security blanket, they take their own power back from an object that is separate from themselves.

Outgrowing means that you remove your emotional tie to a situation or person that is separate from yourself.

Without an emotional tie, it can no longer control you.

The easiest way to outgrow your problems is to see them in the context of the bigger picture, and change your attitude toward them. Whatever challenge you are faced with, it fits into the big picture of the pursuit of your dreams. Think about how your obstacle will help you reach your goals. What opportunities exist that you didn't see before? What are you preparing for, that the big picture might bring? What emotional and physical skills can you learn now that will serve you in the future?

Ask yourself what you want to learn from the problem. Ask yourself how you want to grow in this moment, to bring

you closer to your personal goals. Once you learn from it, you will outgrow it and release it, to make room for a new challenge. Think of how you will be different after the problem is gone. How will you grow? What new challenges can you now face?

You don't have to overcome anything. You only have to learn and grow. You can either face the challenge or use it as an opportunity to redirect your path. Either choice will lead you closer to your desires.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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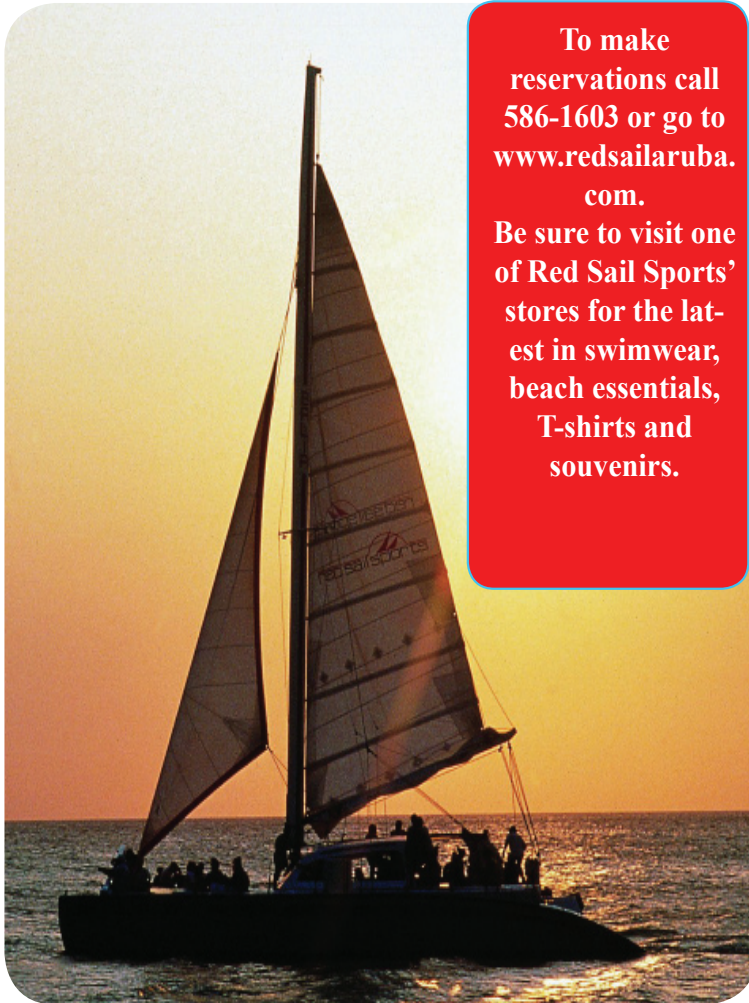
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San Nicolas Basket Ball court in the Village attracts attention



SAN NICOLAS - But there was not a basketball team in sight! Just lights, cameras and action. Award Winning Filmmaker Wayne G Saunders is causing a stir in the film and TV industry, and has been on vacation in Aruba for the past three weeks and has already taken time out to run a seminar with sports TV Aruba and now reached out his talents and skills to the people from San. Nicholas (The Village). Wayne from BossCrowns Production in London linked up with music artist Jeffery Gumbs known as Jefferson Paris who lives and works in San. Nicholas. Wayne was approached by Jefferson who wanted Wayne to produce the 1st ever short film and music video to come out of the Village (aka Chocolate City). Wayne says he met the artist over 2 weeks ago and said he would help make the music video and film starring Jefferson cousin Junior. Wayne says "The reason I chose the basketball court as

the main location is because I liked the colour and vibes, people riding bikes, children playing but not one basketball in sight made it a perfect location to shoot a film and music video. The song "Its not easy" also had a good message and I could see the visuals". Wayne is on vacation with his wife and son but says he is always willing to help people and that Aruba is a beautiful Island with beautiful people from different backgrounds. For more updates check out www.bosscrowns.co.uk Filmmakers Bio Writer, director, producer and editor Wayne G Saunders has won awards from the BBC, ITN and Production Base. He features in the British Film Institute book "Teaching Black Cinema. "He has developed an innovative editing style..." Wayne G Saunders founder of BossCrowns Productions gained fame within the British film industry with his short film Girls & Knives, which was aired on ITN News to over 5



million viewers. BossCrowns Productions independent films have been shown in cinemas across the UK and Europe. Wayne's drama and film production workshops have trained and mentored over 1550 participants around the UK. From an early age Wayne G Saunders was brought up around the surroundings of the media. His father a photographer and his mother worked as a journalist for a small publishing house and studio. He spent many hours in this environment. Wayne studied TV, Video & Film production at the Brits Performing Arts & Technology School, and went on to work at Channel One as a Camera operator/director. Despite his youthful age Wayne has done extensive work with, ITN, BBC, White Noise films to a digital editing

course at VET, Channel Four, N Productions and IC3 TV interactive, The National Film School, LWT, Four Corners Films & OR Media just to

name a few. Wayne has a BSc Hons in New Technology and Media communication and a MA in Screenwriting and Producing



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slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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PALM BEACH - STEINFELD presents WOW factor! at the MAGIC LIVE!® ...theater-of-illusions show, Westin - Aruba opened on December 25 at 9PM. MAGIC Live!® theater-of-illusions show, starring Adam Steinfeld... is an amazing night of Magic, Grand Illusions and Comedy, superb magic at it's

highest level, a lot of fun from start to finish, laugh-out-loud funny, intelligent, sophisticated, unconventional grand illusions, that will keep you asking, 'how the heck did he do that?' Perfect for the holiday season, have you ever dreamed of disappearing and reappearing in an instant? Master illusionist, comedy magician, Adam Steinfeld opened DEC 25, MagicLive show at the WESTIN, Aruba, nightly 9PM, every night, doors open at 8:30PM, and tickets may be purchased at the door, in the intimate Magic Live!

theater-of-illusions theater, every seat is close to the stage. In his new illusion he calls; "PRESENT", a tall girl steps into a tiny box, elevated in-the-air, the box spins 360 degrees,

then the sections are taken away, one by one, until the girl vanishes completely... right before your eyes!

Then as if that isn't enough to run to your local optometrist, he re-assembles the box for the magicbabe to make a triumphant reappearance. It's an all new original illusion not seen anywhere else in the world.

I went back to see the show during rehearsals, and still couldn't figure out the secret.

Tourists and local fans will remember Steinfeld for past performances, in Aruba,



and on network television, Mr. Steinfeld recently authored "the Houdini Conspiracy", aka "Houdini Lives!", a collaborated work with new

mystery writer Al Blanchard, he believes will be turned into a feature film.

The intimate Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions showroom is located just off the lobby of the Westin-Aruba in high-rise area, j.e. irausquin boulevard 77. Palm Beach,

Aruba. Magic Live!® BOX OFFICE tickets are located in main lobby. Purchase TICKETS AT THE DOOR.

SEE MAGIC, comedy and "seemingly impossible feats, get ready to marvel at the all new, MAGIC! theater-of-illusions show starring ADAM STEINFELD. MAGIC LIVE! theater-of-illusions show...at the WESTIN-Aruba, 9pm nightly, starring AdamSteinfeld. □



IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show
Where: Westin - Aruba, Palm beach (high-rise area)
Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld
ShowTime: 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm
Tickets: at the door, MagicLive box office (hotel lobby), or Westin-aruba concierges desk
Box office opens at 7:30pm nightly
Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.95 adults

Faster hair growth tips and exclusive hair information – Pt. 1



It is an innate desire of human beings to look attractive regardless of the hair type they have. Each ethnic race has its own standards of beautiful hair. Mere presence of some beautiful hair strands on the scalp is of not much significance if not with coupled with some healthy and voluminous hair to match.

You can have both the beauty and quantity if you follow some faster hair growth tips. Growth of healthy hair largely depends on its normal healthy functioning and structure. The hair structure is divided into two parts - the non living part that is projected out of the skin of the scalp and the other living part, that remains



buried inside the scalp skin. Both hair parts have various functions to perform, besides being an integral component of the hair growth cycles. Alteration in the normal cyclical process of hair growth is one of the main causes of hair loss. The factors that affect the normal hair growth cycle are hormonal imbalance and genetics.

Though it is hard to take care of the above two factors of hair loss, it is essential for you to keep your hair clean and healthy with the use of well-formulated cleansers and conditioners.

To ensure faster hair growth proper intake of nutritional supplements and natural hair care is essential. Healthy and faster hair growth not only helps you to look beautiful, it helps you to tie them to good hair styling. Here is an interesting opportunity for trying the hair styling tips. You can also imitate the hair styles of some famous Hollywood celebrities. Apart from imitating the hair styles of celebrities follow the natural hair care tips and discover the secrets of faster hair growth for beautifully shining hair. The hair information presented in the web pages is sure to help you in taking proper care of your hair, promote faster hair growth and also give you the opportunity to the follow the trendy hair style. See what useful information the following sections have to offer you to help you in hair care and hair maintenance:

Variations in hair-growth and types:

There are several variations in the hair growth pattern of people all over the world. There can also be differences in the normal hair growth rate due to various climatic conditions. In spite of all the differences and variations; beautiful hair has much significance for the human race both in the context of society and the self esteem.

Beautiful hair enhances your appearance which plays a major role in creating your image, personality and



confidence. Good looks or image to a great extent help in paving the way for success in most spheres of life. It is quite natural for us to be sensitive as far as the beauty and health of our hair growth is concerned, no matter to what ever is the pattern of our hair types.

The hair of every individual is different from that of the other. While the racial differences in the facial features are quite apparent, differences like texture of the hair require a detailed observation to identify.

Apart from racial hair growth differences, seasonal changes also play a major role in the rate of hair growth. Climatic conditions in all the countries around the world are different. In the equatorial region there is maximum daylight year round which has a significant effect on hair growth patterns. Effects of seasonal variations in hair loss are temporary and the

hair easily grows back after a period of time. But there are factors like genetics which have a severe effect on hair growth rate.

Hair loss of any type in any ethnic group is a sensitive issue and needs attention and care. Some hair losses are temporary in nature and part of the natural cyclical process. But disastrous hair loss is sure to be a cause of concern and needs to be prevented by knowing the proper cause of hair loss.

Though a slowed down hair growth needs attention there is no need to be anxious about it. For almost every hair loss there is a hair growth solution and for every hair types there are well-formulated hair care products. The actual solution lies in being informed about probable cause and finding the right solution. For some it could be stress that is affecting the hair growth, for some it could be nutrition. □

To be continued.



Today is Earth Day

The History Of Earth Day

Bill Lucey

On April 22, the 40th anniversary of Earth Day will be celebrated from coast-to-coast; a day which was first realized by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson who wanted to find a way to increase environmental awareness and to promote urgently needed federal legislation to deal with an alarming ecological crisis. It wasn't until visiting Santa Barbara Calif in August, 1969, and reading about the popularity of "teach-ins" at college campuses as way of educating students about the Vietnam War that an idea caught hold in Nelson's head to hold a similar "teach-in" only with a focus on environmental awareness. Since the first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970, when a chorus of demonstrators around the nation (some 20 million strong) voiced their concerns about the environment, specifically about the pollution of air and water, that a significant amount of federal legislation was passed to protect the environment. Nelson, who was the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1995 by President Bill Clinton, the nation's highest civilian honor, died at his Bethesda, Md home on July 3, 2005 at the age of 89. What follows are summaries of some of the most important federal legislation that was passed during the 1970's, thanks in large part, to Sen. Nelson and his grassroots environmental movement.

- The Environmental Protection Agency was created on December 2, 1970, in response to the nationwide concern over environmental pollution. The newly formed agency was responsible for consolidating a variety of federal research, monitoring, standard-setting and enforcement activities under a single regulatory agency to protect health and safeguard the natural environment, including air, water, and land

- The Clean Air Act of 1970 is a comprehensive federal law, which required the EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect against common pollutants, including ozone (smog),

carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, lead, and particulate soot. The Act was subsequently amended in 1977 and 1990 to set new goals for achieving NAAQS. In particular, the phasing out of lead gas by the mid-1980's, was hailed by many as one of the most important health initiatives of the 20th century. Additional amendments to the Clean Air Act in 1990 included the controlling of acid rain and the elimination of leaded gas in automobiles by the end of 1995. Despite repeated violations of basic health standards, leaving millions of Americans at risk, important progress has been made since the Act was passed, including the reduction of emissions of toxic by 98 percent, the reduction of emissions of sulfur dioxide by 35 percent, and the reduction of emissions of carbon monoxide by 32 percent

- The Occupational Safety and Health Act was passed on December 29, 1970 which created the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) under the U.S. Department of Labor, responsible for enforcing workplace safety by requiring employers to keep a safe workplace, inform employees of potential hazards in the workplace, properly train them how to deal with potential hazards and maintain a written

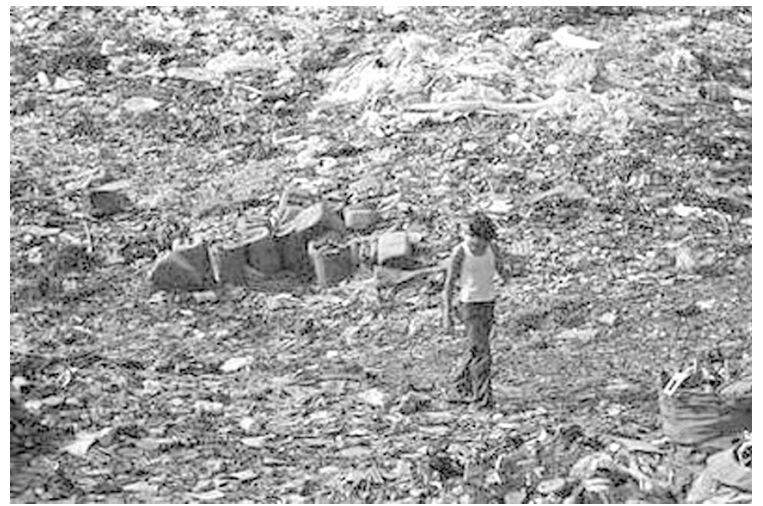
record of workplace injuries. Specific workplace safety conditions were additionally created for the following industries: General industry, Maritime, Construction, and Agriculture.

- Clean Water Act of 1972: With the aim of regulating quality standards for surface waters, including the regulation of discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States, the Clean Water Act was passed in 1972, requiring that every U.S. city install a water treatment plant through the use of grant money.

The CWA additionally set national goals that lakes and rivers should be "fishable" and "swimmable."

In addition to the CWA, in 1974, the Safe Drinking Water Act was passed, which made the EPA responsible for setting water quality standards to protect against man-made and natural occurring contaminants, as well as making sure these standards were being enforced at the state and local level.

- The Endangered Species Act of 1973: was passed by Congress and later signed by President Richard Nixon on December 28, 1973 amid growing concern that various "species" of fish, wildlife, and plants in the United States were growing extinct. The Act authorized the federal government to



protect endangered species and threatened wildlife, considered by the president to be a "irreplaceable part of our national heritage."

Among other provisions, ESA prohibits the unauthorized taking, possession, sale, and transport of endangered species, authorizes the issuing of civil and criminal penalties for violating the Act or regulations. The Act additionally requires federal agencies to develop programs to preserve and recover listed species.

Amendments to the ESA passed in 1978 require the Secretary to review the list of endangered species every five years, including providing for public hearings before the listing of a species or its habitat. In addition to 1978, amendments to the ESA were added in 1979, 1982 and 1988

- Toxic Substances Control Act (of 1976) was signed into law on October 11, 1976, which requires the EPA to ensure industries maintain testing, control, and recordkeeping for individual chemicals and chemical mixtures, whether it be

food, drugs, or cosmetics. The Act also requires the labeling of chemicals, including requiring the industry to test both old and new chemicals.

Among the many environmental breakthroughs, TSCA extensively studied the adverse effects of asbestos, which led to the creation of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) and the regulation for the training, inspection, and handling of asbestos in schools, including publicly-accessible and privately-owned facilities.

- The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (of 1976) for the first time, established standards for the storage, treatment, and disposal of solid wastes (garbage, refuse, or sludge) and hazardous wastes (solid wastes or the combination of solid wastes) on land and directed federal agencies to order the cleanup of contaminated sites.

An amendment to the RCRA in 1984 phased out land disposal of hazardous material, along with the creation of a comprehensive underground storage tank program. □

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Study: Brain games don't make you smarter

By MARIA CHENG,
AP Medical Writer

LONDON — People playing computer games to train their brains might as well be playing Super Mario, new research suggests.

In a six-week study, experts found people who played online games designed to improve their cognitive skills didn't get any smarter.

Researchers recruited participants from viewers of the BBC's science show "Bang Goes the Theory." More than 8,600 people aged 18 to 60 were asked to play online brain games designed by the researchers to improve their memory, reasoning and other skills for at least 10 minutes a day, three times a week.

They were compared to more than 2,700 people who didn't

play any brain games, but spent a similar amount of time surfing the Internet and answering general knowledge questions. All participants were given a sort of I.Q. test before and after the experiment.

Researchers said the people who did the brain training didn't do any better on the test after six weeks than people who had simply been on the Internet. On some sections of the test, the people who surfed the Net scored higher than those playing the games.

The study was paid for by the BBC and published online Tuesday by the journal Nature.

"If you're (playing these games) because they're fun, that's absolutely fine," said Adrian Owen, assistant director of the Cognition and

Brain Sciences unit at Britain's Medical Research Council, the study's lead author. "But if you're expecting (these games) to improve your I.Q., our data suggests this isn't the case," he said during a press briefing on Tuesday.

One maker of brain games said the BBC study did not apply to its products. Steve Aldrich, CEO of Posit Science, said the company's games, some of which were funded in part by the U.S. National Institutes of Health, have been proven to boost brain power.

"Their conclusion would be like saying, 'I cannot run a mile in under 4 minutes and therefore it is impossible to do so,'" Aldrich said in a statement.

Posit Science has published research in journals including the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences showing their games improved memory in older people.

Computer games available online and marketed by companies like Nintendo that supposedly enhance memory, reasoning and other cognitive skills are played by millions of people worldwide, though

few studies have examined if the games work.

"There is precious little evidence to suggest the skills used in these games transfer to the real world," said Art Kramer, a professor of psychology and neuroscience at the University of Illinois. He was not linked to the study and has no ties to any companies that make brain training games. Kramer had several reservations about the BBC study's methodology and said some brain games had small effects in improving people's cognitive skills. "Learning is very specific," he said. "Unless the component you are trained in actually exists in the real world, any transfer will be pretty minimal."

Instead of playing brain games, Kramer said people would be better off getting some exercise. He said physical activity can spark new connections between neurons and produce new brain cells. "Fitness changes the building blocks of the brain's structure," he said. Still, Kramer said some brain training games worked better than others. □

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All the President's Goldman Sachs Men

Michelle Malkin

While President Obama assails the culture of greed and recklessness practiced by the men of Goldman Sachs, his administration is infested with them. The White House can no more disown Government Sachs than Da Boss-in-chief can disown Chicago politics.

Obama is headed to Wall Street on Thursday to demand “financial regulatory reform” — just as the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has filed civil suit against Goldman Sachs for mortgage-related fraud. Question the timing? Darn tootin’. There are no coincidences in the perpetually orchestrated Age of O. Everyone from disgraced former New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer to analysts at the Brookings Institution and Barclays Capital to the GOP leadership and Rush Limbaugh has noted the reeking political opportunism in the air.

As the New York Post reported Tuesday, the Democratic National Committee immediately bought sponsored Internet ads on Google that direct web surfers who type in “Goldman Sachs SEC” to Obama’s fundraising site. “It’s time to hold the big banks accountable,” the money-grubbing DNC message bellows. But just like his crony capitalist predecessor George W. Bush, Obama has relied on Goldman Sachs and Wall Street power brokers to engineer massive government interventions to “rescue” failing businesses with the tax dollars of ordinary Americans.

While irony-challenged Democratic candidates like mob-linked banker Alexi Giannoulas in Illinois (who hopes to fill Obama’s old Senate seat) call on Republicans to return their fat-cat Goldman Sachs donations, the Democrats are silent on the \$994,795 in Goldman Sachs campaign cash that Obama bagged. The class-warfare Dems are also mum on all the president’s Goldman Sachs men sitting in the catbird’s seat:

— Goldman Sachs partner Gary Gensler is Obama’s Commodity Futures Trading Commission head. He was confirmed despite heated congressional grilling over his role, as Reuters described it, “as a high-level Treasury official in a 2000 law that exempted the \$58 trillion credit default swap market from oversight. The financial instruments have been blamed for amplifying global financial turmoil.” Gensler said he was sorry — hey, it worked for tax cheat Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner — and was quickly installed to guard the henhouse. □

Henry Kissinger: US and Russia should share anti-Iran missile defense

Henry Kissinger is a former US secretary of State. He spoke with Global Viewpoint Network editor Nathan Gardels about President Obama’s nuclear policies, how to deal with China, and the new alliance of BRIC countries.

Nathan Gardels: You have said that you see President Obama as a chess player setting up his moves on the world stage in the first year and a half in office. How do you assess his moves of late on the new START treaty, the Nuclear Posture Statement and the just-completed nuclear security summit with world leaders?

Henry Kissinger: The START treaty is a significant step in achieving a reset in the Russian-American relationship. It replaces the first START treaty, which had lapsed in December. The announced reductions are marginal in substance and achieved in part by changing the counting rules. It is a useful step that deserves ratification.

I agree with the attempt of the Nuclear Posture Statement to reduce reliance on nuclear weapons where we can safely do so. Some of the assurances that were given to nonnuclear countries, however, seem to me too explicit. Especially the statement that the US would not respond to biological and chemical attacks with nuclear weapons. That issue should be left ambiguous.

As for the recent summit of world leaders, controlling fissionable material all over the world is crucial, especially as the civilian use of nuclear energy spreads. Of these three initiatives on the nuclear weapons front taken by Obama, this is the most important subject. It will need continued attention to be effective.

Gardels: One of the stumbling blocks the last time the US and the then-Soviet Union discussed radical arms reductions at Reykjavik during the Reagan administration was the issue of missile defense. That is an issue this time as well, since the Russians oppose basing a missile defense system in Europe aimed against Iran that could be directed against them. And, apparently, they reserve the right to withdraw from the START treaty if the missile-defense issue is not solved.

George Shultz, Reagan’s secretary of State, suggests that the US propose sharing the missile-defense system with Russia, even basing radar sites on their soil. Is this realistic? Is it a good idea?

Kissinger: I favor developing a joint missile defense with Russia against Iran. But the US also needs missile defenses controlled by the United States against strategic attack from other directions. So, let’s cooperate with Russia on Iran, but we cannot relinquish missile defenses aimed at other threats — especially unauthorized launches and accidental launches.

Gardels: When you made the opening to China with Richard Nixon, the country was flat on its back in the waning days of the Cultural Revolution. Since then, it has had double-digit growth for several decades; it has a large emerging middle class, the world’s fastest trains, and vast currency reserves. It is the main holder of American Treasury securities. As a result, one senses in China these days an inner-civilizational confidence that borders on arrogance. That has led China to assert itself strongly vis-à-vis the US on Google, Tibet, Taiwan, and climate

change, with more contradictory signals on Iran sanctions and currency valuation.

How should we read China these days? How should we deal with China?

Kissinger: I don’t agree with your catalog of examples as reflecting what you call Chinese arrogance. Taiwan is a longstanding issue. I would argue that China has shown considerable restraint over a 40-year period in the dialogue over Taiwan. But it is important for both sides to cooperate with a long-range perspective.

It is true, of course, that the China of today is far more developed than at the time of the opening. One of the big challenges of the next generation is whether the American and Chinese perceptions of the world can be brought into some harmony. America has its own values and convictions, but so does China. We must learn to evolve side by side. This is the big unresolved challenge in geopolitics today. I think there are prospects of a constructive approach on a whole series of new common interests that have never been dealt with on a global basis — climate and other environmental issues, nuclear proliferation — that will require an unprecedented scope for foreign policy in both countries.

Gardels: Will China end up joining the West on sanctions against Iran?

Kissinger: They have made some positive movement in the last few weeks. The issue now is how these sanctions are defined. The purpose of the exercise is not sanctions as such, but the impact these sanctions will have on Iran. I do believe China sees the danger in nuclear proliferation. The test will be whether the sanctions that emerge have a genuine impact.

Gardels: For the second year in a row, Brazil, Russia, India, and China — the so-called “BRIC” countries — have held a summit of their heads of state to coordinate diplomatic and economic strategies on a global scale. It is almost as if the BRIC leaders see themselves as a “new nonaligned movement” of countries like we saw in the cold war. How do you view the BRIC initiatives? What role will they play globally?

Kissinger: We’ve been through this with the nonaligned movement. The question is whether the BRICs can align their policies into a coherent bloc. China and Russia, and, for that matter Brazil, are not candidates for a group that excludes the United States, much less to confront it. They are different from the nonaligned movement of the 1970s and 1980s because they are not really developing countries anymore.

Also, the nonaligned movement was attempting to place itself between the US and the Soviet Union. Between whom and whom are the BRICs situating themselves?

Gardels: They are defining themselves against the United States and the multilateral institutions it dominates, such as the IMF [International Monetary Fund].

Kissinger: This is true more in rhetoric than practice. The BRICs will attempt to be a player on global economic questions. But I would be surprised if they could achieve a coherent political position on the international scene. In any event, the most hopeful prospect is cooperation between the BRIC states and America, not confrontation.

Presidente Bolivia, Evo Morales

Combate a crisis climática excede ideologías

TIQUIPAYA, Bolivia (Reuters)

- El debate sobre el cambio climático y los “derechos de la madre tierra” está por encima de las ideologías, dijo el miércoles el presidente izquierdista boliviano Evo Morales, en una conferencia ambiental alternativa a foros oficiales internacionales.

Morales, conocido como duro crítico del capitalismo al cual atribuye casi todos los males del planeta, suavizó su tono al anunciar que el encuentro aprobaría una declaración de derechos ecológicos planetarios y la creación de un organismo mundial de movimientos sociales y un tribunal ambiental.

“Ahora tenemos un nuevo paradigma planetario para defender la vida, sin hablar de capitalismo, socialismo ni comunismo”, dijo el mandatario indígena en una rueda de prensa, en el tercero de los cuatro días de la conferencia en Tiquipaya, un pequeño pueblo del departamento central de

Cochabamba.

Morales agregó que este nuevo enfoque debería dar “un camino” a todos los sectores progresistas de la humanidad que creyeron quedar sin horizonte tras la caída del Muro de Berlín hace 20 años.

La Conferencia Mundial de los Pueblos sobre el Cambio Climático y los Derechos de la Madre Tierra fue convocada por Morales en respuesta al fracaso de la Cumbre de Copenhague, realizada en diciembre del año pasado por iniciativa de Naciones Unidas para buscar un pacto mundial contra el cambio climático.

“Si Copenhague hubiera tomado en cuenta el sentimiento de los pueblos, no habría habido esta conferencia (...) En Copenhague (los países desarrollados) quisieron imponer un documento no para salvar la vida sino para continuar la destrucción del planeta”, aseguró Morales.

Por ello, incluso sin ser vinculante, afirmó que era importante la conferencia

alternativa en Tiquipaya, en la que participaban millares de entusiastas delegados de organizaciones sociales, expertos independientes y gobiernos de más de un centenar de países.

“El tema central en esta conferencia son los derechos de la madre tierra. Queremos que Naciones Unidas acepte una declaración de derechos de la madre tierra. Es un trabajo, un proceso de generar conciencia en nuestros pueblos, nuestros gobiernos”, explicó. “La nueva consigna es descolonizar la atmósfera (...), en resumen, estamos debatiendo eso, tal vez ni capitalismo, ni colonialismo, ni socialismo”, añadió, postulando en cambio un “socialismo comunitario” regido por la armonía hombre-naturaleza.

Morales admitió que un acuerdo mundial sobre los derechos planetarios es un objetivo de largo plazo, recordando que la humanidad demoró casi dos milenios de la era cristiana para aprobar una declaración de derechos humanos. “En este nuevo



El presidente de Bolivia, Evo Morales, durante una rueda de prensa en la Conferencia Mundial de los Pueblos sobre el Cambio Climático. Abr 21 2010. REUTERS/Gaston Brito

milenio toca debatir los derechos de la madre tierra”, dijo.

El mandatario ratificó que las conclusiones de la conferencia serán presentadas a una nueva cumbre mundial sobre el cambio climático convocada por Naciones Unidas para fin de año en México. □

Colombia:

Recompensa para detener asesinos de hermano de ministro

BOGOTÁ (AP) - El gobierno ofreció una recompensa de 50 millones de pesos (unos 26.000 dólares) para quienes entreguen información que lleve a la detención de los autores del asesinato de un hermano del ministro de Minas y Energía.

Ricardo Martínez, de 65 años, fue baleado el martes por la noche cuando iba en su auto por una carretera del norte del país y fue atacado por dos pistoleros que se desplazaban en una moto, dijo el miércoles el subdirector de la Policía Nacional, general Rafael Parra, en entrevista telefónica. Martínez era hermano del ministro de Minas y Energía, Hernán Martínez Torres.

De acuerdo con el jefe policial, Martínez iba acompañado de su esposa, que resultó levemente herida, desde el balneario de Cartagena a la localidad de Turbaco, a 640 kilómetros al norte de Bogotá, donde residía.

Tanto Martínez como su esposa, identificada como Cecilia de Martínez, eran jubilados, agregó. “Hasta el momento se desconocen los móviles” del ataque, dijo el oficial. □



Perú da seguridad a escritor Bayly por amenazas

LIMA (Reuters) - La policía y el Ministerio de Interior de Perú están brindando seguridad al polémico escritor y periodista Jaime Bayly ante amenazas contra su vida, dijo el miércoles el presidente peruano, Alan García.

Bayly, quien trabaja mayormente en Colombia en un programa de televisión, dijo el lunes en un artículo publicado por el diario peruano Peru21 que su vida corre peligro debido a amenazas de muerte provenientes de Venezuela.

“Nosotros no conocemos directamente de la policía colombiana esos datos, sino a través de una comunicación cursada a los jefes policiales”, dijo García a periodistas, al ser consultado sobre el tema.

“Es un rumor que se conocía y que la ha sido transmitido al señor Bayly, pero naturalmente es mejor precaver que lamentar”, afirmó el mandatario peruano, sin comentar o precisar de dónde vendrían las presuntas amenazas contra el escritor peruano.

Bayly, de 45 años, refirió que las amenazas

le fueron comunicadas por el jefe de la policía secreta de Colombia en un hotel de Bogotá. “Hace ya varios años que me amenazan de muerte en correos electrónicos, que por lo general provienen de Venezuela, pero la información que me suministra el policía colombiano es precisa y parece confiable”, escribió el también comentarista de televisión.

Bayly ha anunciado que planea inscribir su candidatura presidencial en Perú para las elecciones del 2011, idea que muchos ven con incredulidad, aunque ya aparece en las encuestas con entre un 3 y un 5 por ciento de intención de votos.

El escritor es un acérrimo crítico del presidente venezolano, Hugo Chávez, y también de García.

“El jefe de la policía nacional y el Ministerio de Interior han puesto la seguridad que el Perú le pueda dar al señor Bayly a efectos de que no se produjera ningún hecho así”, dijo García, después de una reunión con su gabinete de ministros. □

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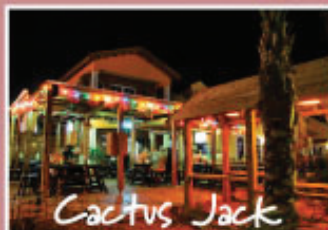


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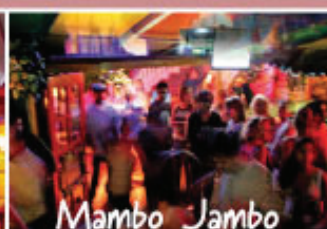
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